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PHOTO ESSAY, PAGE A12

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# the johns hopkins News-Letter

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DIWALI 2015



COURTESY OF SAMHITA ILANGO

About 2,000 members of the Hopkins community concluded Diwali celebrations on Saturday by lighting sparklers. See Page A6.

## Students urge open mental health discourse

By PETER JI  
For The News-Letter

Mental health is an issue on campuses around America, including Hopkins'. The University has attempted to create a more supportive environment surrounding mental health, providing various resources for students. However, some feel that there is room for improvement.

This conversation was spurred on-campus in part by former SGA Executive President Jason Plush, who recently resigned from his position.

Sophomore Hansel Romero believes mental illness needs a greater public presence and cites Plush's impact.

"The topics themselves need to be personalized and made accessible to those who want to know more about [mental illnesses]," Romero said. "For instance, Jason put a face onto mental illness—a face that people need to see or hear about. I think instances like that make mental illness much more in the public eye, whereas they are now considered something to be dealt with on a private or per-

sonal basis."

Active Minds president and sophomore John Hughes feels that the administration and the Hopkins community are headed in the right direction. However, the stigma

associated with mental illness often makes it difficult for students to openly speak to friends or family about their problems. Students may choose not to seek help because

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## Blow analyzes systemic racism

By SHERRY SIMKOVIC  
For The News-Letter

JHU Forums on Race in America hosted Charles M. Blow, a *New York Times* op-ed columnist, on Wednesday at Shriver Hall. He focused on recent instances of police brutality and systemic racism.

Blow is also a CNN contributor and author. He released his memoir, *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* in Sept. 2014.

The event was sponsored by the Diversity Leadership Council, the Office of Institutional Eq-

uity, the Center for Africana Studies, the Black Student Union, the Black Faculty and Staff Association and the Office of Student Affairs.

Lester Spence, an associate professor of political science and Africana Studies at Hopkins, moderated the event.

He explained the purpose of the Forums, which began last Spring, following the death of Freddie Gray and subsequent protest.

"[The purpose was] to begin to solve the problems of what some call the

Baltimore Uprising. We hope to spark dialogue and change at Hopkins and in the wider Baltimore community," Spence said. "We are in a crisis. We need ideas. Ideas matter to generate new ways of understanding the world and to generate

SEE BLOW, PAGE A5

starred on *The Cosby Show* in the early 1990s. She alleges that Cosby drugged and sexually assaulted her and made threats against her life.

Seven members of the Sexual Assault Resource Unit (SARU) also attended the meeting.

"The gesture of repealing Cosby's degree would show support for Lili and her family as part of the JHU community, and for student sexual assault survivors. It would also demonstrate that JHU is serious about correcting their negative history of failing to adequately respond to sexual assault violations. We look forward to JHU making the right decision," reads a post on SARU's Facebook page.

According to SARU, Bernard's talent agent at the time of the alleged assault and a crew member on *The Cosby Show* attended the meeting through video chat to verify Bernard's story.

According to Jason Kravitz, director of Strategic Communications, the University is currently deciding whether to rescind the degree.

"Johns Hopkins University is deeply troubled by the reports and allegations regarding Bill Cosby. As a university, Johns Hopkins has a set of standards we seek to uphold and we are actively reviewing this matter," Kravitz wrote in an email.

SEE COSBY, PAGE A5

## Addressing asexuality through awareness

By KELSEY KO  
For The News-Letter

The Office of LGBTQ Life hosted an event about the asexuality spectrum at the Mattin Center on Thursday. The event was part of an LGBTQ+ sexuality education series during Sexuality Awareness Week Oct. 18-24.

Sophomore Nevena Marinkovic, a student intern at the Office of LGBTQ Life, organized the event and spoke about

asexuality and the distinction between sexual attraction and romantic attraction.

"The most common definition [of asexuality] that you'll hear is someone who doesn't experience sexual attraction," Marinkovic said. "Your sexual attraction and your romantic attraction are two different orientations. Your sexual orientation is what you'll usually

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## INSIDE



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# Ryan selected as GOP House Speaker candidate



GAGE SKIDMORE/CC-BY-SA-2.0

Paul Ryan will face Nancy Pelosi in the election for Speaker of the House.

By CLAIRE FOX  
For The News-Letter

Representative Paul Ryan (R-WI) was chosen as the Republican candidate for Speaker of the House on Wednesday, beating out Rep. Daniel Webster (R-FL). The election is now between Ryan and former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA). Representatives will choose a new Speaker Thursday, Oct. 29.

If elected, Ryan will succeed John Boehner (R-Ohio), who announced Sept. 25 that he would be stepping down, citing turmoil among House Republicans over the past few months as the main reason behind his decision.

Urged on by many Republicans, Ryan declared on Oct. 20 that he would run for Speaker but only if he received support from all major party caucuses, particularly the right wing House Freedom Caucus. Despite not receiving an official endorsement, Ryan accepted the overall majority decision.

Senior Nitin Nainani, president of the College Republicans, thinks Ryan is the best option for the open position.

"If Paul Ryan does end up being the next Speaker, it is overall a net gain for the Republicans. He's one figure who could unite the caucus for the most part," Nainani said. "A lot of the members of the caucus simply felt like they weren't being heard under John Boehner as Speaker."

Ryan had previously refused to run for Speaker. A few weeks prior to his official announcement, Ryan stated in a press conference that he viewed himself more as a "policy guy" and would not be right for the position.

After receiving support from his peers, including Boehner, and after contemplating the position for a week, Ryan wrote in a letter to his colleagues that he would run because he thought that his party needed him.

Even though Ryan did not initially want the job and would have preferred to stay as chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, Nainani believes the representative's experience as a policy-focused congressman is actually a positive factor. She explained that having clear initiatives helps his image.

"Many people simply did not think Boehner had a vision for the caucus; he very much so went on a day-to-day basis to deal with the next press cycles. So when Paul Ryan says that he's a 'policy guy' I think it's actually a plus for this position," Nainani said. "He has the conservative vision that Boehner didn't necessarily have looking forward. He has long-term goals that he wants to achieve."

Not only is Ryan a potential source of stability for Republicans, but he also might serve as a more viable collaborator for Democrats to work with

in the future, according to junior Cynthia Hadler, secretary of the College Democrats.

"I think Ryan as Speaker would work well with Democrats because his voting record is actually more moderate than what is portrayed and I believe he could work across the aisle to make sensible policies," wrote Hadler in an email to *The News-Letter*. "One of his biggest strengths is budget policy."

Nainani agreed that some Democrats might be more satisfied with Ryan as Speaker in comparison with other Republicans, given his history of working out compromises with House Democrats.

"Several prominent Democrats — Mark Warner (D-VA), Harry Reid (D-NV), Patty Murray (D-WA) — who worked with Ryan last year on budget agreements expressed support for Ryan as Speaker," he said. "He's shown he can work with Democrats on major legislation, and I think that's very important."

If the vote goes in Ryan's favor, Congress will be looking to him to ease tensions in the Republican caucus and be a new source of leadership, and Nainani says that the Wisconsin representative is ready.

"Just in the way he earned the support of the Freedom Caucus, talked to them about their concerns and gave them more inclusive leadership than they've had in years, I think he's someone that people are comfortable with," he said. "With the need for new blood, a new person in charge, Paul Ryan is the right guy to do it."

# Voice for Life protests Planned Parenthood

By ABBY BIESMAN  
News & Features Editor

The Hopkins chapter of Voice for Life (VFL), a national pro-life organization that campaigns against abortion, presented a display against Planned Parenthood on the Gilman Quad with the goal of spreading pro-life ideas on campus with support from Students for Life of America. The display lasted from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. last Thursday, Oct. 22.

The display, titled The Planned Parenthood Project, is provided by Students for Life of America, a non-profit organization that helps students on college campuses advocate what they call "the culture of life," namely anti-abortion advocacy. The organization does not have chapters of students.

The group was protesting the fact that Planned Parenthood sold body parts of aborted fetuses to third parties for profit, a claim that Planned Parenthood denies.

VFL Co-President senior Jessica Janneck discussed the reason the organization held the event.

"The display event, provided by Students for Life of America, allowed us to invite the Hopkins community on the Homewood campus to discuss life issues and to raise awareness of life-affirming options," Janneck wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

On Thursday, infographics and display pieces were paired with information about local health clinics and pregnancy centers along with information about the Pregnant on Campus initiative.

Pregnant on Campus is an initiative fueled by Students for Life that creates a platform and guidelines to help provide resources for pregnant students and convince them to not have an abortion.

At the display there were 897 pink crosses stacked on the ground. The crosses represent the average of 897 abortions performed each day in the U.S.

"Of the abortions done in the United States a day,

1 in 4 are done by Planned Parenthood, making them the nation's largest abortion provider," Janneck wrote.

Janneck discussed student reception to the displays, saying the group had 40 in-depth discussions with students during the event.

"One particular conversation lasted for about one hour and we have received some follow-up emails regarding the display," Janneck wrote. "We also had a resource table with 12 different pamphlets and a double-sided local resource list where many students stopped by to pick-up information."

With the exception of some people who would make anti-abortion comments, Janneck felt that the display invited respectful discussion about the issue.

Among other scheduled events, VFL will host a Diaper and Baby Supplies drive for Pregnancy Center North, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit medical clinic.

"We hosted this display to raise awareness of who Planned Parenthood is (using their 2013-2014 Annual Report, which is their last publicly released report) and to invite the Homewood campus to open, honest discussion on life issues," Janneck wrote. "We believe that Hopkins students who become pregnant should not have to choose between their pre-born babies and their education."

VFL says that [pregnatjhu.org](http://pregnatjhu.org) offers resources for pregnant women at Hopkins, including an anonymous online chat with Hopkins student counselors and a 24-hour hotline, among other resources.

"We acknowledge that being a student-parent is difficult," Janneck wrote. "We are here to help and support pregnant and parenting students as much as we can from the pregnancy test, to birth and beyond."

Janneck became active with VFL during her sophomore spring when she served as the Pregnancy Resources Coordinator, working on implementing and forming guidelines for

Student for Life of America's Pregnant on Campus Initiative and helping to create a supportive community for pregnant students at Hopkins.

"I strongly believe in standing up for what you believe in, especially when there are lives at stake," Janneck wrote. "I especially like that Voice for Life supports pregnant and parenting students and local families through providing resources, emotional support, volunteering time, and hosting diaper/baby supplies drives."

Voice For Choice (VFC) shared their reaction to the VFL display, discussing ways that they thought the display was misleading. The color of their displays, according to VFC, used Planned Parenthood's well-known shade of pink. The displays also had "Planned Parenthood" written in large font and "Project" in smaller font. Voice for Choice shared a statement with *The News-Letter*.

"This attempt to deceive Hopkins students is incredibly disrespectful and inappropriate," the statement said. "Voice For Choice will soon be hosting a Planned Parenthood representative on campus to provide Hopkins' students with facts about Planned Parenthood and sexual health."

One of the claims the display makes is that "Planned Parenthood encourages a daily regimen of hormonal birth control, which have dangerous side effects such as increased risk of cancer and even death."

"Hormonal birth control can increase the risk of cancer in women with family histories of cancer. However, although hormonal birth control increases the risk of some cancers, it also decreases the risk of uter-

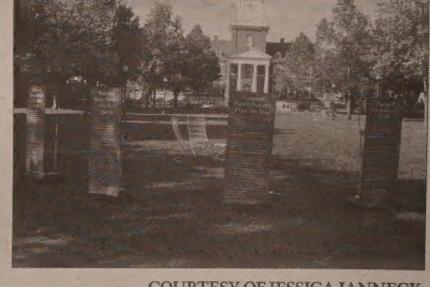
ine cancer," the statement says. "Hormonal birth control is also a critical treatment for many painful and debilitating menstrual disorders. Further, hormonal birth control plays a role in reducing unplanned pregnancies."

The display also claims that 94 percent of Planned Parenthood's pregnancy services were abortions in 2013. However, that number is only a percent of specific services. This 94 percent is only reached if one adds abortions with adoption referrals and prenatal services and then takes abortions over this total. Planned Parenthood also performs other pregnancy services like providing contraception.

Some argue that Planned Parenthood exists not for abortions, but to help people make decisions when they are pregnant, abortion being one of those choices. Senior Meliora Ansbro commented on the importance of their free speech, regardless of any political views or nations, so long as protests are conducted in safe and respectful ways.

"I do have to say I very much am pro-them being allowed to demonstrate their opinions," Ansbro said. "As much as I disagree, I'm going to support their right to say it."

Senior Chrissy Schnabel shares a similar opinion and discussed the benefits of having these resources on campus. She believes they went about portraying their message appropriately by providing resources or a solution to what they envisioned as the problem at hand, rather than simply protesting Planned Parenthood.



COURTESY OF JESSICA JANNECK

# Analysis: Presidential candidates face off in third GOP debate

By SAM FOSSUM  
For The News-Letter

The Republican Party hosted its third presidential debate on Wednesday, in which ten candidates who made the 2.5 percent cutoff in an average of national polls participated. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Gov. John Kasich (R-OH) and Carly Fiorina gave the most commendable performances.

CNBC, the debate host, marketed the debate with the slogan "Your Money Your Vote," and the conversation focused on the state of the economy and the candidates' potential policies.

This debate seemed to break from previous debates because it was more heavily moderated by a team of commentators. The commentators were joined throughout separate segments of the debate by guest moderators.

When asked to clarify his statement about fellow candidates' proposals that he originally said were "just crazy," Kasich explained his economic background.

"Folks we have to wake up. We can't just pick some-

one who doesn't know how to do the job," he said. "We have to pick someone with the experience, with the know how, with the discipline. And I spent my entire lifetime balancing federal budgets, growing jobs as we've seen in Ohio."

Trump targeted Kasich with false information. Kasich was a Lehman Brothers managing director but did not serve on the Board or hold any higher level positions.

Trump's performance seemed to reflect previous debates, as he continued with his combative attitude and lack of substantive answers to economic or fiscal reform.

Junior Theodore Kupfer commented on Trump's debate persona.

"Thus far his rise makes demographic sense but as he doubles down on irrationality — like by harping on manufacturing as if it was still 1950 — maybe voters will start to see through his thinning facade (and hair)," Kupfer wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "He's probably hit his ceiling at 30% support, so we'll see if the sect of middle Americans who have backed him thus

far will be able to stomach an 'establishment' candidate... even though those candidates are generally quite conservative."

Senior Harrison Finkelstein took a different approach to watching Trump's performance, explaining that he understands Trump's appeal in the eyes of the public but also believes his arguments are unsubstantial.

"Trump is a very strong and charismatic speaker, although his facts are questionable," Finkelstein wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

The stand-out candidate of the night was Sen. Marco Rubio who came off as a strong, well-educated candidate with substantive and clear ideas on how he wants to help the American economy. In response to his ideas on reforming and expanding the H-1B visa program, Rubio also espoused his plans for training more Americans to do high-skilled jobs.

"We need to get back to training people in this country to do the jobs of the 21st century," Rubio said. "How did we stop doing Vocational training

in America? People need to get trained to do this work while they're still in high school so they can graduate and go to work."

Even though Rubio has yet to become a front-runner in the polls, Kupfer predicts that Rubio's ability to comport himself well and appear educated will lead to the GOP establishment consolidating around him.

"I think you're going to see the establishment and big-money donors consolidate around him as Bush's lack of charisma causes him to keep falling," Kupfer wrote.

Carly Fiorina also handled herself well, bringing clear and simple ideas.

Her central message in response to the question of economic and fiscal reform was simplicity. She proposed to cut the current 73,000 page tax code to just three.

Finkelstein expressed his opinion on the overall quality of the debate, reflecting on the more supportive nature between the candidates as the moderators asked more targeted questions.

"They seemed to be propping each other up as much as they were tearing each other down," he wrote. "The moderators seemed particularly nasty in tone and direction of questions."

## Errata: Oct 22. Edition

In the Oct. 22, 2015 edition of The News-Letter, "Administrators talk Sexual Misconduct" paraphrased Vice Provost Shollenberger to describe the overall goals of Bystander Intervention Training, saying that the aim is "to create a cultural shift that minimizes the number of cases of reported and unreported sexual misconduct." Shollenberger has clarified that the University does not wish to discourage students in any way from reporting instances of sexual misconduct, but rather hopes to decrease the overall incidence. The sentence has been updated online.

The News-Letter regrets this error.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Junior Class Senator Charlie Green elected SGA Executive VP



COURTESY OF TYANA WARREN

Junior Charlie Green was elected as SGA vice president Tuesday.

**By ABBY SHEGELMAN**  
For The News-Letter

Junior Class Senator Charlie Green was elected executive vice president of the Student Government Association (SGA) at its meeting on Tuesday in the Charles Commons Barber Room.

"I am passionate about bringing pride and school spirit to Hopkins, and this has been reflected so far in the work that I have done while as senator at Hopkins," Green wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "Now, as Executive Vice President I am excited to continue this work but also to advise other senators and see work that they are doing in committees that I was never apart of."

Green is succeeding senior Jack Bartholet, who became SGA executive president on Friday after senior Jason Plush stepped down.

"Charlie is such a dedicated member of SGA. She works incredibly hard, she commands the respect of her peers and administrators," Bartholet said. "She's an excellent choice for vice

president. I'm absolutely thrilled to be working with her. I know that the Senate is thrilled, and she's eager and excited to get to work."

Green commented on Plush's resignation.

"Jason Plush did a fantastic job as Executive President while in office, leaving office but starting a very important and necessary conversation campus-wide regarding mental illness," Green wrote.

She believes the changes to the executive board will not affect its productivity.

"I am confident that Jack Bartholet will do a great job in Plush's position and that the executive board will be able to work well together and continue leading the senate as productively as it has been this year."

The SGA discussed multiple issues at the meeting, including International Student Programming, results from the Class of 2018 Fall Survey Report and a bill on Halloween buses.

Freshman Class Senators Mi Tu and Akshay Bhamidipati, Junior

Class Senator Saman Baban and Sophomore Class President Anna Du presented their plan for an expanded International Student Programming.

"For me as an international student, the biggest problem is that we don't have any international program communities," Tu said. "Some of my friends who are international students don't speak English well, and it's not easy for them to connect with people here. It would be easier for them to adapt to the community as well."

They proposed to create a new Office of International Services position to focus on immigration, orientation and social and intercultural programming to support international students.

"American campus life aspects are very unknown for international students. It would be easier for them to adjust," Baban, an international student himself, said.

He stated that it took him a while to finally feel comfortable and "immersed" in the country due what he perceives as a weakness in the international orientation program.

Bhamidipati said that he sees many international students sticking together and not mingling with others.

A plan was proposed to hold an international students's forum to facilitate discussion about what international students would like to see on campus. Regular meetings for the international student orientation committee were also suggested.

SGA discussed the re-

sults of the class of 2018 Fall Survey Report. The main question asked was "What kind of changes would you like to see on Homewood campus this year?" Forty-three percent of responses focused on dining such as whether the CharMar sandwich shop could stay open longer, whether Nolan's could serve healthier options or whether the Daily Grind could accept dining dollars.

A secondary issue the senate debated was banning smoking on campus. Junior Class Senator Liam Haviv noted that because he perceives that smoking is becoming increasingly acceptable by young people in foreign countries, a ban could potentially alienate international students.

Other SGA members mentioned that another important demographic to consider is the staff.

Freshman Class President Noh Mebrahtu suggested banning cigarettes but not E-cigarettes or electronic cigarettes.

Another point of discussion was the bill on buses to Fells Point for Halloween this Friday. In the past years the SGA has allocated funding towards shuttles and buses to provide safe transportation to and from Fells Point for students 21 and older.

However, the issue in previous years was always students taking it "too far," according to Associate Dean of Student Engagement Tiffany Sanchez.

She said that faculty and staff should accompany students on the

buses to make sure students aren't damaging property and are returning safely. However, the faculty and staff have families with whom they would like to be spending Halloween night. The University also cannot be responsible legally for students who did not return to the buses.

"We are willing to help you all make it safe and interesting," Dean Sanchez said.

Junior Class Senator Michael Korn informed the senate of his correspondence with Uber since the company could potentially make a deal with the SGA to provide safe transportation for Hopkins students.

The idea to use the funding to collaborate with Uber and other taxi services was brought up as well.

So far \$1,650 has been allocated towards the buses. However, this money could be allocated towards an activity on campus for students under 21.

A motion was passed to amend the Halloween bus bill to state that the \$1,650 would instead be allocated towards the Student Services Committee's discretion to find an appropriate and applicable system that would not make the University liable for any activities that will take place on Friday.

## SGA to host Halloween party in Levering Hall

**By ABBY BIESMAN**  
News & Features Editor

vide students with an alternative to going to Fells Point or elsewhere.

"We wanted to have an on-campus activity for Halloween because we know it's... hard for a lot of people to get down to Fells," Bartholet said. "We also wanted to have something where students can come together for those who do want to drink and party during Halloween that are of age and those who aren't able to."

He stressed the convenience of the event being on campus.

"Everyone that we've talked to is incredibly pumped for it," Bartholet said.

It is designed to pro-

# SJP open letter and grad student petition protest Dershowitz at MSE

**By WILL ANDERSON**

News and Features Editor

An open letter and a second petition have begun circulating around campus scrutinizing Alan Dershowitz's inclusion in the Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium.

Dershowitz is scheduled to speak Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. in Shriver Hall.

The open letter was written by the Hopkins chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), a student group that advocates for the Palestinian cause in the Middle East and has called Israel an "apartheid state" akin to pre-Mandela South Africa.

The petition was spearheaded by a group of graduate students in the philosophy department.

Dershowitz is best known for his success as a criminal defense lawyer, working on the O.J. Simpson murder case and winning 13 out of the 15 murder and attempted murder cases he has defended. Dershowitz is a passionate defender of Israel and has written a book titled *The Case for Israel* for which he has received accusations of plagiarism from a previously written book.

The SJP letter condemns Dershowitz's alleged anti-Arab bias and "racist arithmetic" and questions his ability to remain an unbiased expert on international and legal affairs while maintaining his strong pro-

Israel beliefs.

"[C]onflating his legal background with his political commentary dangerously gives the misleading and inaccurate impression that Dershowitz is an objective scholar with extensive academic training and engagement with the histories, cultures, and peoples of the Middle East," the letter states.

SJP also criticizes Dershowitz's characterization as anti-Semitic of those who support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS), which advocates for the financial retraction of all investments into Israeli companies.

The organization also called into question MSE's inclusion of two pro-Israel speakers, Dershowitz and former U.S. Senator Joe Lieberman, without including the Palestinian perspective.

"We are particularly alarmed by the appropriation and widespread use of this... as a tactic to curb open discussion of Palestine-Israel and delegitimize individuals and groups that recognize the self-determination of the Palestinian people," the letter states. "Dershowitz and his partisans therefore contribute to the particular climate of fear and hostility faced by Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim students, staff, and faculty, as well as their allies."

SJP does not object to Dershowitz speaking on

campus, citing his right to free speech, but the organization does say that he does not deserve the same honor accorded to Nelson Mandela and Maya Angelou, past speakers and human rights activists. SJP calls on MSE to acknowledge Dershowitz's divisive presence and advocates for "alternative engagement" on campus.

"By offering an alternative engagement on campus, we trust that our community will be able to consider Dershowitz's remarks and follow the standard

of academic rigor that the members of this institution strive to hold themselves to," the petition states.

Mutasem Aldmour, the president of Hopkins Students for Justice in Palestine, says that calling any criticism of Israel anti-Semitic is unfair.

"You would not be anti-American for questioning America's policies or a feminist being called anti-male for standing up for equal rights," he wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "[Calling someone] anti-Semitic is a tactic commonly used to silence dissent, as we em-

phasized in the letter, and it does a disservice to everyone who suffered from anti-Semitism."

Because they have another event scheduled for the same day, SJP is not planning on protesting the event.

The second petition condemns Israel's actions in the Palestinian Territories. The petition also

criticizes

Dershowitz's denial that Israel has committed war crimes and claims citing the opinions of several international organizations, some past Israeli officials and several nations' official opinions.

The petition foremost calls into question whether Dershowitz satisfies the University's ethical standards by denying Israel's alleged war crimes against Palestinians, citing the University's General Anti-Harassment policy and the University Statement of Ethical Standards.

"To be silent on an issue such as this is to stain both the dignity of our University and that of its members," the petition states.

However, the petition signatories wrote that they are not opposed to Dershowitz speaking on

campus but they advocate for a complete disassociation from Dershowitz from the University and the MSE Symposium.

"Nonetheless, by inviting Professor Dershowitz to participate in a celebrated JHU lecture series, the coordinators of the MSE are inviting a noted denier of the crimes committed against residents of the Occupied Palestinian Territories," the petition states.

"Furthermore — and crucially — this invitation is happening in the absence of any public statement by the MSE Symposium, or by the University generally, which might serve to officially dissociate either the Symposium or the University from Professor Dershowitz's views."

The signatories explained that it does not plan on protesting Dershowitz's presence on campus as a collective.

"Nonetheless, we do protest against his opinions, of course. This letter is an act of protest. But whether further action will take any form during his visit other than the already public letter is not yet clear. That is a decision for the individual signatories to make," philosophy graduate student Richard Teague wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* on behalf of the signatories.

MSE has previously told *The News-Letter* that it does not endorse the

views of any speakers that it hosts.

The MSE co-chairs wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* that they have notified Dershowitz about the petitions and that the organization encourages free speech.

"The students signing the petition are entitled to their opinions — we do ask, however, that in the effort of increasing awareness and broadening horizons that members of the student body conduct a thorough review of non-partisan, unbiased sources that lack ulterior motives for discrediting Professor Dershowitz," they wrote.

The event will be run like all other MSE events.

"Professor Dershowitz has not requested any particular format. We will continue with typical MSE format, open and non-screened questions at the end of his discussion with Professor Freedman," the MSE co-chairs wrote.

A petition protesting Dershowitz's inclusion in MSE has been circulating since early October. Its sponsors are Hopkins Feminists, the Sexual Assault Resource Unit (SARU), the Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance (DSAGA), Voice for Choice and the Black Student Union (BSU). Among other offenses, they protested Dershowitz's previous statements about sexual assault, claiming that he has trivialized victims.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Intl. students get ready for first Halloween



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Halloween decorations have appeared around Charles Village, and international students are getting excited for the holiday.

**HALLOWEEN, FROM A1**

associates Halloween with younger children.

"We celebrate Carnival in Suriname, when they let elementary school kids dress up and parade through the neighborhood," Chou said. "For the American Halloween, I think of kids dressing up and trick-or-treating. But I'm not a little kid anymore. So rather than excited to experience it, I'm curious to see how Halloween's like here."

Chou is looking forward to attending the undergraduate Halloween party at the George Peabody Library on Saturday night.

Other students who are experiencing Halloween for the first time are excited too for the festivities. Freshman Diva Parekh, who never celebrated Halloween in India, is looking forward to participating in as many holiday traditions as possible.

"I'm very excited. I'm going to go all out," she said. "I think I'm going to try to do everything, which is like go trick-or-treating in Hampden, then go to Peabody because Peabody is awesome and then maybe go to Fells Point because I

heard that's awesome."

Parekh plans to dress up as Tonks from the Harry Potter series and wants to actively partake in festive Halloween activities because she was never able to celebrate the holiday with her friends as a child.

"I'm kind of sad that I missed out on having Halloween as a child because that seems like a lot of fun, I'm just most excited about seeing everyone dressed ridiculously and nobody actually caring," Parekh said.

"Because it's my first, I felt obligated to buy a costume. All my friends never had Halloween before either, and we're all really excited about it. We're trying really hard and even though we're all in different places we kind of have a common theme going around."

Parekh also expressed in interest in learning about the origins of Halloween due to her interest in the holiday.

"I actually would really like to know the whole religious thing behind Halloween and I don't, but I'm going to look it up because at this point it just seems like a fun holiday. I don't know its religious implications and

that could be interesting," Parekh said.

Unlike those who have never experienced Halloween, some international students have celebrated the holiday with classmates before.

"I first experienced Halloween when I lived in France from age three to age six. Trick-or-treating was not that popular, but dressing up was," Eric Seki, a freshman from Japan, said.

"When I returned to Japan, I went to an international school, so the school already had that American culture and many of my friends came from places like the States," he said. "There was a costume walk on Halloween day in elementary school, where afternoon classes were canceled and the students dressed up and asked for candy from teachers. The neighborhood around the school had many people from the states, so there was a trick-or-treating culture there as well, along with inside the American compound.

Nonetheless, Seki is looking forward to her first Halloween in America.

"There's trick-or-treating, candy, costumes, houses decorated with

cobwebs and stuff, of course I'm excited. I'm most excited about the candy and dressing up, it's fun," said Seki. "I'm planning on going to the Peabody event."

Freshman Poppy Wang, an international student

from China, has also experienced Halloween prior to coming to the U.S. but didn't participate in many Halloween festivities.

"I was in an international program in my high school so we had Halloween parties. People carved pumpkins and wore Halloween costumes. They made us carry huge pumpkins all the way up to the classroom and I broke my leg, so I had Halloween-phobia and did not go to any of the events," Wang said.

"Another reason I refused to go to Halloween parties in my high school was that some girls' choice of costumes made the parties explicitly sexual. I'm almost positive there will be a bunch of sexy skeletons and sexy wild cats around unless there is a dress code."

Despite her distaste for the Halloween events of her old school, Wang is thinking about wearing a costume and getting together with her friends to celebrate this year.

"I might get a warm polar bear costume depending on how efficient Amazon is," she said. "I'm just going to wear it in my dorm and watch a movie with friends."

# Rep. Edwards talks senate campaign

By ALEX DRAGONE  
Senior Staff Writer

U.S. Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD) of Maryland's 4th Congressional District spoke to an audience in Charles Commons on Wednesday night about her race for the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate. Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D) announced in March she would not run for reelection in 2016.

The event was co-hosted by the College Democrats, Her Campus and Students for Socioeconomic Equity.

Edwards began by giving her views on Rep. Paul Ryan's (R-WI) future as Speaker of the House.

"I got to know him quite well, he and his wife, because we traveled to Egypt together about three years ago," Edwards said. "And it's one of these examples because of the time that we spent together that we actually got to know each other as people... Even though I don't agree with him on lots of policy issues, and he doesn't agree with me on a lot of policy issues, I think he's a nice guy."

Edwards has been in Congress since 2008. One of the issues she works on is pay discrepancies between men and women.

"That day that you graduate," Edwards said, addressing the women in the room, "is the day on which you're making the closest in income to your male colleagues for the entirety of your career. So we have to change that."

Edwards opened the floor to questions. When asked how she has dealt with the issue of domestic violence in her career, she pointed to her support of the Domestic Violence Offender Gun Ban, which banned those with domestic violence convictions from owning firearms.

"One in four women experiences domestic violence, intimate partner violence. One in seven men experiences intimate partner violence," she said. "We can... try and protect, try and give law enforcement and prosecutors the tools that they need, try and make sure that there are programs and services available that are appropriate for the communities... that we have."

Edwards responded to a question from *The News-Letter* about policy differences between her and her primary opponent, Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D) of the 8th Congressional District.

Edwards pointed to their opposing views on international trade agreements, entitlement programs and campaign finance laws.

"I have been a huge skeptic of trade deals that I believe have traded away jobs and opportunity for the American people," she said. "Mr. Van Hollen has voted for nine of the last 11 trade deals since he's been in Congress... Here in Baltimore since NAFTA [the North American Free Trade Agreement]... our state has lost 7,000 manufacturing jobs."

Edwards pointed to her opposition to many elements of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, like the removal of Buy America provisions from government contracts that favor American companies, while highlighting how Van Hollen did not declare his stance until after he became a candidate.

"His record on trade is abysmal," Edwards said.

Edwards further said that Van Hollen was willing to cut entitlement programs during budget negotiations. She also cited the 2010 DISCLOSE Act, which Van Hollen authored with Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY). It exempted the National Rifle Association (NRA) from disclosing its campaign contributions.

Edwards spoke to *The News-Letter* and reaffirmed her stance on guns, claiming that most gun owners support "common-sense" gun control measures.

"The NRA works for the gun industry," she said. "There are millions of Americans who are part of the NRA — hunters, collectors. But they register their guns and they submit to background checks. So why does the administrative institution of the NRA fight gun regulations that its members support? I talk to gun owners all the time who say they support these things."

Edwards said she did not entirely agree with the Obama administration's foreign policy.

"I support the recent dealings with Iran, but when the President announced his ramp-up plan in Afghanistan, I came out and opposed it publicly," Edwards said. "I support the use of diplomacy. It's a more complicated world than it was in 2008. There's a different Egypt, a different Tunisia. We haven't been doing it recently, but Congress must be engaged on combat operations. I might not support it, but we need to be engaged."

Edwards says that she has been a consistent critic of government surveillance programs.

"There might be a time to balance civil liberties and security, but we should lean towards civil liberties," she said.

# Asexuality is poorly understood, even by LGBTQ community

**ASEXUAL, FROM A1**

hear as asexual, bisexual, straight, gay and romantic orientations are homo-romantic, heteroromantic and even aromantic for people who don't feel romantic attraction. The idea behind this is that everyone has a romantic and sexual orientation and that for most people they line up. But for a lot of people who are asexual, they don't. You don't feel a physical attraction but you'll feel a romantic attraction — like a desire to be intimate with someone."

Marinkovic went further to describe how asexuality is also on a spectrum, in which people can feel anything in between sexual attraction to no sexual attraction at all.

"We like to define asexuality as a spectrum, so one side is asexual — not feeling any sort of physical attraction whatsoever. On the other side is allosexual, which comprises all the other categories of what you'd describe as heterosexual, gay, bisexual, pansexual," Marinkovic said. "Graysexual pretty much defines anyone who falls in between, who has enough experiences in common with the asexual community to identify with them, but doesn't really consider themselves completely asexual."

Marinkovic also spoke

about her own personal experience in coming to terms with her sexuality and the struggles of the asexual community to thrive in a culture where there is not much visibility for those with diverse sexual orientations.

"For me personally, being graysexual — somewhere between asexual and allosexual — my experience with it has been not feeling physical attraction very often, and when I do feel it, it's really easy to ignore. It's something that's not a huge part of my life," Marinkovic said.

"But a lot of people never actually find the words to describe what they're feeling and people can struggle for a really long time and not understand why their experiences are different than those of their peers."

A Hopkins student who is both asexual and aromantic, who wished to remain anonymous, also spoke on the personal and emotional inner conflicts she faced when coming to terms with her asexuality.

"I was going through a phase where I was kind of like, 'so what am I?' I don't feel straight because I have zero interest in guys," she said. "But then I was like, 'do I like girls?' I have a lot of close friendships with girls, but have I ever felt like I wanted to have sex with them? And

I was like 'no.' The whole thought of [having sex], I'm personally repulsed."

She said that the Internet helped her find the words to describe herself and to find similarity with others.

"When you're in my situation, for a long time you feel different or strange or broken, and then you discover this term. I found it on the Internet, that's where most people find it because there's not a lot of broad mainstream coverage of it at all. And through discovering this online community, you get to know people that are actively talking about these

things. I've always been this way, and it was a relief to know that there are people out there like that and that there's not anything physically wrong with me because of it."

The LGBTQ community includes asexual people. (The initialism is often amended to LGBTQIA to represent intersex and asexual people.) However, the anonymous Hopkins student explained the estrangement she felt even

as a part of the LGBTQ community, and how coming out as asexual is not as easy as it seems because it departs from the traditional views of society.

"It's definitely hard in the sense that I relate to the LGBTQ community a lot, but I also feel almost excluded from it in a way," she said. "It's just that there are a lot of horror stories about people who will just kind of say that [asexuality] is not a real thing, or you don't really deserve to be here because you don't go through the struggles that we do.

There's also the issue that since they're still interested in sex, it comes up a lot, and if you're just not into that, it's kind of hard to relate."

The student also spoke about the difficulty of talk about her asexuality with her family.

"One of the things I do struggle with is trying to ease my parents into it. I haven't come out to them, but I remember that once I just told my mom that I don't want to get married and she was just kind of taken aback. And this was

just about marriage, so I don't even know how she would react if I told her I was asexual," she said. "If I were to get married, it would be under very specific circumstances where there would be no sex and probably wouldn't be very romantic, it would be more like a companionship and we would just be happy.

It's complicated because I want to have kids one day, but I don't want to be a single parent either."

Marinkovic said she organized the event because she believes in emphasizing alternative cultural narratives to increase awareness of the asexuality spectrum.

"When you think of a Disney story, every single movie story is you fall in love, there's that physical intimacy, and that's it. Visibility is a big problem where we should be having more stories in the media and on TV, and public figures who come out and say, 'I'm asexual, this is what this is,'" Marinkovic said.

"I think no matter your gender identity, even if you're straight and cisgender and you've never questioned those things, the concepts are really important to think about because a lot of that cultural narrative around traditional romance and things like that can be really damaging."

**I relate to the LGBTQ community... but I also feel almost excluded from it in a way"**

—ANONYMOUS  
ASEXUAL STUDENT

"The NRA works for the gun industry," she said. "There are millions of Americans who are part of the NRA — hunters, collectors. But they register their guns and they submit to background checks. So why does the administrative institution of the NRA fight gun regulations that its members support? I talk to gun owners all the time who say they support these things."

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"There might be a time to balance civil liberties and security, but we should lean towards civil liberties," she said.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Community celebrates Indian festival of lights



Students ate Indian delicacies, watched performances of Indian culture and talked with family and friends at the University's Diwali celebration.

By SYDNEY RIEMER

For The News-Letter

More than 2,000 people attended the Hindu Students Council's (HSC) annual celebration of Diwali, the festival of lights, in the gymnasium of the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center on Saturday.

Diwali is celebrated all around the world by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists. According to cards that were on all of the tables at the event, "Diwali honors the triumph of light over darkness, marking the start of the New Year."

"The purpose [of the event] is to celebrate Diwali," sophomore Harrine Ramesh, who is secretary of the HSC, said. "And it's not only for the Indian students who are nostalgic, it's for the whole community to learn about Indian culture and just embrace it whether it's through food, dancing or anything else."

In keeping with Hindu practices, attendees were asked to remove their shoes before entering the gym.

"[It's] a Hindu tradition that when you go into a house or a temple. And this [the gym] is kind of emulating a temple because we have some idols in the center, so you take off your shoes to show respect," junior Sumukh Bharadwaj, an HSC board member, said.

The main event of the evening was a Hindu ritual of worship, aarti. Attendees gathered around a table upon which statues of the Hindu gods were mounted.

In addition to prayer, the event also featured free food, including samosas, gulab jamun, a traditional South Asian

dessert and daal, a lentil dish.

Another way Indian culture was fused into the event was giving attendees the opportunity to have a sari, a South Asian female garment, and a pagh, or turban, tied on for them.

The purpose of the sari-tying event was to have fun while simultaneously spreading Indian culture," sophomore Sharmini Premananthan, who volunteered to tie saris, said.

Later in the night attendees gathered to watch performances by South Asian dance groups

JHU Shakti, Blue Jay

Bhangra, Zinda and

JOSH.

In addition to celebrating South Asian and Hindu culture, the event also had a charitable aspect.

The Lotus Life Foundation, an organization that donates medical supplies to impoverished children in India, where childhood illnesses and infectious diseases are common, asked attendees for donations at the entrance to the gym to support their efforts.

The gym was packed with people only an hour after the event began.

"I'm really happy about how it turned out," senior Anuja Shah, co-president of the HSC, said. "This has been going on for over 10 years, probably 15 at Hopkins, and every year it has just been getting bigger and bigger. I think this is the

**"Everyone is so talented and it was obvious that a lot of hard work went into those performances."**

— SAMAVIA KHAN,  
FRESHMAN

most people I've seen at the beginning of the event. I'm glad there's such a great turnout."

Shah explained that HSC likes to make the event family-oriented.

"The actual holiday is on November 11th this year. It's on the lunar calendar, so it changes. But we like keeping it during Parents' Weekend because a lot of parents really like this event," Shah said.

Sophomore Tara Blair brought her family to the celebration.

"I thought it would be a fun event for my family because in high school a lot of my close friends were Indian so I got to experience their culture and wanted the same for my family," Blair said.

Blair's mother, Teresa Blair, had a positive experience at the

event.

"My family and I enjoyed seeing many of the students and even some parents dressed in their festive traditional outfits. I thought it would be nice for my high school daughter to see the traditional Indian dance, as she studies dance, but unfortunately we didn't get to stay that late," she said.

Blair praised the event organizers, citing the free food.

"I definitely plan on attending it again next year if they have the Diwali event, and I will plan on staying for the dance. It was nice that it was very informal and you could stay as long or as little as you wanted,"

she said. "I should've realized the event would have a great turnout with students since there was free food, so it was so great to see so many students at one event."

Though the event is planned over Parents' Weekend, and several students whose parents did not visit attended and enjoyed the event.

"Diwali is something I celebrate every year with my family, it's like equivalent to Christmas, and you buy new clothes and such," sophomore Sanjana Chandrasekar said. "It's really hard to keep up with that tradition here at Hopkins, so it was nice to be able to celebrate the festival with my peers."

Sophomore Gita Lakshminarayanan agreed with Chandrasekar's sentiments.

"I like connecting with my culture and celebrating part of my heritage," she said.

Other students just wanted to see the performances, eat free food and find out what the event was all about. Freshman Samavia Khan attended the event knowing little about Diwali.

"I was interested in experiencing a different aspect of South Asian culture," Khan said. "I wanted to learn more about the holiday, and it was something new and exciting to do on campus. I think the performances were great because I was able to see a different side of my friends and classmates. Everyone is so talented and it was obvious that a lot of hard work went into those performances."

The event ended with the lighting of sparklers outside of the recreation center.

# Green leader talks waste-free society

By ROLLIN HU

For The News-Letter

Ralf Fücks, a former leader of a German green party, gave a talk on Friday titled "Green Growth, Smart Growth." He discussed how to maintain economic growth without sacrificing environmental sustainability.

Dr. Ben Hobbs, one of the organizers of the event as well as the director of the University's Environment, Energy, Sustainability and Health Institute (E2SHI), introduced Fücks.

"Ralf has degrees in social science, political science and economics from Heidelberg and Bremen. And he has a long history with the German Greens. He was their co-president in 1989 to 1990," Hobbs said.

"And there he played a role in moving them from the fringe to the center of power of the Social Democrats in the 1990s."

Fücks began his talk by addressing the conception that economic growth and environmental sustainability is incompatible. He then countered this thought by proposing a method of promoting economic growth that prioritizes environmental protection.

"Today, part of the global environmental green community is deeply convinced that sustainability and growth are in competition," Fücks said. "This was the basic thinking and worldview of the paradigm of politics, that saving the planet will demand ending economic growth and even reduce the level of production and consumption."

Fücks then looked at the history of human economic development and noted how the trend justified the previous maxim that environmentalism and economic growth are inversely proportional.

"At the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century we had a rapid ascent, almost an explosion of technological innovation and production. At the same time we can see that there was a flip side of the economic growth and this was rising CO<sub>2</sub> emissions," he said. "So economic growth happened at the expense of natural resources and economic wealth was accumulated by consuming natural capital. There was the basic law of economic growth until now."

Fücks's solution is to combat the association between economic development and environmental degradation and instead strive to make them complementary.

"The answer is decoupling economic growth with environmental degradation. This is the core, or the meaning of green growth: growth without undermining the environmental systems," he said.

He then outlined three trends that would lead to this decoupling: the efficiency and energy revolution and the emergence of circular economies.

"First, one is an efficiency revolution, making more out of less, producing more wealth more services with less

energy and less natural resources," Fücks said. "There are thousands and thousands of examples in which we could reduce energy consumption without reducing living standards of people," he said.

The second main transformation will be energy revolution, the substitution of fossil fuels by renewable energy. The substitution of coal, oil and also gas by solar, by geothermal, by hydroelectric which will result in the decarbonization of our economy."

Finally Fücks spoke about the circular economy, a concept that eliminates waste while maintaining economic growth.

"The third one is moving towards a circular economy where we consume waste in which every reusable substance will return either in the agricultural field or the biological process or the industrial process of recycling," he said.

Fücks said that society's priorities also must change to encourage this trend towards green growth.

"There is not only a great transformation in technology, there is also a transformation of values where we are moving towards more values in which consumers are more and more willing to pay slightly higher prices to promote environmental standards," Fücks said. "Customers are becoming more and more sensitive to environmental sustainability, and this motivates companies."

Dr. Hobbs, one of the organizers of the event, spoke of the importance of the E2SHI program.

"Our purpose is to create multi-disciplinary resource teams to address environmental problems.

We are also trying to create an intellectual community across Hopkins from people from Arts & Sciences and Engineering, all of whom are interested in environmental problems and whose skills and energies are absolutely required to solve those problems," Hobbs said.

Sophomore GECS student Claire Gray agreed that ideally society should produce no waste, but she said that this was unlikely.

"We obviously have a waste problem... One way we could use [waste] is through energy generation, like the waste to energy incinerator in Baltimore City... We're going to continue to produce waste anyway, so we might as well put it to use," she said.

Sophomore Kyra Meko, another GECS student, agreed with Fücks' ideas.

"As much as humans consider ourselves separate from the ecosystems we live in, we're not and we would not exist without the services they provide. By degrading those ecosystems through the use of fossil fuels and the creation of waste we are existentially harming ourselves," Meko wrote in an email to The News-Letter. "Transitioning from fossil fuels to sustainable energy would not hinder economic growth because the resources provided by the environment (like solar or wind) are not finite the way coal or oil are."



Students celebrated Diwali, the Indian festival of lights, with some students and families burning sparklers, a common practice.

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## HIP HOP

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# Why everyone could use a well-timed hug



**Michael Gentile**  
Good Vibes

**I**t is difficult to overstate the perfect hug. After all, it's one of the few comprehensive forms of expression that we have. In that moment when you feel another's body wrap around you, whatever flames may have been burning in your heart are put out, your mind quiets and your soul chirps in hope, you realize that you have a home to wait out the storm in and words lose meaning. Love triumphs. Life sings at last, "We are okay."

Understandably, these silent reassurances can't come from just anyone. A quasi-mandatory parting hug to an acquaintance after a small party does not strike quite the same chord as the leap of emotion into your parents' arms after a long time apart.

The latter's significance stems from its sincerity, its complete collapse of comparison. While you may be very careful and precise in how you embrace a stranger at the end of a night, you forsake inhibition entirely when tucked into the warmth of your father's chest, when cradled by your mother's delicate arms. In that moment you are you, uncut and unedited, immersed in the company of those who wouldn't want you to be anything else.

For many of us, the buck does not stop with our families. We may have a close friend or significant other who provides us with the same silent solace. We could even have several, each one lending a shoulder to a different part of us.

Regardless, it's quite tragic to imagine not having those people, even more tragic to know that many people don't and most tragic to realize how many barriers stand in the way of welcoming those people into our lives. The pervasiveness of judgment and nature of destructive



RAYMORRIS/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0  
A hug is one of the few comprehensive forms of expression that we have. Even animals give hugs.

competition inject these barriers into our lives.

Even as I write this article, I semi-consciously contemplate how others will view it, how I will be perceived and the fallout of such judgments. Contrary to the message I espouse, I play this game. After all, we are wired in this way to win, to predict potential outcomes and bring about the most favorable one. Our skill in playing this game got us into Hopkins and will no doubt continue to get us far in the future.

However, the second-by-second commitment to over-analysis that this game necessitates generates great mental and emotional gridlock. In short, we

hesitate to do things we want to do. We battle ourselves. We tap the iced-over lake with our foot before taking a step.

For instance, when our most basic instincts tell us to hug someone, our adapted state of mind intercepts the messages and runs the option through a series of tests. Will I be construed as weird afterwards? Does my relationship with the person warrant it? Does hugging the person compromise the reputation I've built with the people around me? Even if we follow through with it and the hug is well-received,

these thoughts continue to race throughout the experience. The anxiety of the operation makes the hug, which you desired in the first place, unenjoyable. Our human nature is overridden and then devalued. This game controls not just our decision to hug, but all of our decisions. We reduce ourselves from living, ever-evolving manifestations of instinct and emotion to utility-maximizing computers that only move forward and value individual moments in terms of seconds. Though this automated method may save us from falling through the ice sometimes, it deprives us of the times that we don't. It deprives us of the glorious

moments that exist not as steps to trace a larger goal from, but purely as themselves. It deprives us of the stories that our parents tell us after the hug.

When two people can circumvent or ignore this game in interaction with each other, great relationships are born. They forsake worry, doubt and anxiety. They forget the impulse to judge. They are human, rather than societal; and as a result, each party revels in the unfamiliar freedom to do exactly what they want without consequence. Neither person fears shame in

sharing sadness or disdain in praising happiness. In this world, you are your own canvas to paint and no color is off limits.

Hopkins can be that world. If each and every person on this campus fervently fought against the game and rose above the need to judge, love would engulf our very school spirit. Bad days would become deep conversations and good days would trickle down to all those who weren't so lucky. The peculiar loneliness that college intermittently guarantees would evaporate into an all-encompassing nest of mutual support and warmth — some would even say, a hug.

So in this upcoming week, think back to Family Weekend. Each time you interact with one of your classmates, revive the emotion that swelled in your heart upon your very first reunion with your parents. Visualize the smile that soared upon their faces, their arms outstretched in your direction. Feel back to the crescendo of happiness that roared upon your body increasingly as you drew closer to them.

Remember what it felt like to belong, to be home, to be you.

Finally, channel that sensation — that rush of power and positivity — into making Hopkins a more human place. In the end, you may find yourself surrounded by your best friends. You may begin to realize how fortunate you truly are.

# The strange doctors of 15th-century Española



**Rollin Hu**  
Irrelevant History

**I** am by no means a historian. I am nowhere near as well-read as I should be to be commenting upon historical events. In fact, almost all my knowledge about history comes from Wikipedia [citation needed]. But I do believe that history has pertinence in our lives today. Sometimes. Not really. We'll see how this goes. Nevertheless, it is damn interesting and entertaining to know the way things were, and we'll see whether or not they matter at all now.

The first primary source reading I've done in my college career is a compilation of chapters from a book called *La Relación del Taino* by Ramón Pané, which I would rate 10/10 for being so exorbitantly absurd. From my understanding of the Wikipedia page (which is only in Spanish), Pané was a monk who accompanied Christopher Columbus on his second voyage to the New World. And then Columbus dumped him on some island and told him to get to know the people.

From what I have read, their health care system was very messed up, more messed up than what Republicans think of the Affordable Care Act. Physicians on the island of Española at this time were called buhuitihius (that word yields only 137 results in a Google search). So prior to a house call for a sick person, buhuitihius would cover their faces in soot and stick a mixture of bone and meat in their mouths and hide it there to use later (it'll be a surprise). Upon entering the home of the sick person, the buhuitihius would set the mood by kicking children out, vomiting and then proceed to suck the sick person's neck, shoul-

der, stomach and cheeks.

After doing this, the buhuitihius would say something along the lines of, "You're sick because you didn't worship this god enough. You're an idiot. But it's okay, I have sucked out all the bad stuff in you. See, here it is, take care of it." This is the climax of the buhuitihius's magic trick, when he takes the bone/meat mixture out of his mouth and presents it to the sick person. Ta-da. And that is how doctors worked on the island of Española at the start of the 16th century.

By the way, that wasn't even the craziest custom described in the reading. There's another ritual where the people would ask a dead person if they were dead, and if the dead person spoke and said that they were dead, the people would accept that the dead person was dead. This reading was my introduction to a history class taken at the college level.

It's kind of interesting, but did I really have to know this? Not going to lie, these people were pretty dumb. They accepted trickery and absurdity as a truth in their lives. But are we any better? Are we also prone to having dumb ideas? Yeah, kind of.

According to a Pew Research Center study, almost one of 10 Americans believe that vaccines for diseases like the mumps or rubella are unsafe for children. In a 2015 Gallup poll, six percent of adult Americans believe that vaccines cause autism. That's pretty dumb. But humankind hasn't entirely sucked at making advances in medical health.

Going from crappy magic tricks to that Da Vinci Surgical System robot on campus is certainly a significant leap. But there is still work to be done. So I guess learning about this made me realize the progress we have made and the progress still to be made.

Note to pre-meds: In your future career, please don't do any of the things that buhuitihius did. It's not a good idea.

## What's the Word on Campus? This Week on Yik Yak

Hopkins Lacrosse team :  
scooters :: Slytherin Quidditch  
team : Nimbus 2001s

55

5 HOURS 8 REPLIES SHARE

\*goes in casual wear to a halloween party\* Person: What's your costume? Me: I'm my rent. Person: I don't get it. Me: Yah, neither did my landlord.

59

2 HOURS 0 REPLIES SHARE

Check back each week to see what the anonymous students of Hopkins have to say.

Hi, yes. I'd like to order another Fall Break, please.

172

To the window, to the wall! To my comfy bed I crawl down this big long hall. Ahhhh sleep sleep sleep sleep

73

3 HOURS 3 REPLIES SHARE

## HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and of course, sex.

## Thoughts after having a midlife crisis at the ripe age of 19



NICHOLAS ERWIN/CC BY-NC-ND-2.0

To be honest, I freaked out the other day. I was on the track to nothingness. Morbid.

Lily Kairis  
Un-Poetic Musings

**A**bout a week and a half ago, I thought I was having a midlife crisis. At least, that's what I claimed. That's what I decided to tell nearly everyone in my life, regardless of whether or not they really wanted to hear. For example, while reflecting with my domestic life partner Ian over evening study breaks in Brody: "Remember when I texted you all that nonsense yesterday? Yeah, my midlife crisis?" Or when I came home that weekend, to my high

school best friends: "Oh, how am I doing? Well, to be honest, I freaked out the other day. Thought I was having a midlife crisis." Or even, to my parents: "Mom, I'm having a midlife crisis." After the last one, my mom decided to lay some serious get-your-head-out-of-the-clouds truth on me, à la: "Lily, you're 19-years-old. You're not having a midlife crisis."

In the back of my mind, of course, I'd known all along that I wasn't. I had no intentions of dying at the age of 40, so the literal logic of my "midlife" moment was itself quite faulty. I knew I was over exaggerating. I was fine. I was stable. I wasn't buying \$3,000 motorcycles. I didn't develop a sudden urge to adopt dozens of stray cats, and I wasn't, that I knew of, planning any near-death experiences to "teach me how to feel again." For all intents

and purposes, my life was progressing wonderfully. I was incredibly blessed and full of opportunities and yet I still told my friends I was in a "crisis phase."

**A**nd why? Because it was the

only explanation I could come up with.

I know it sounds ridiculous and fairly drama-queen-level over the top (in retrospect, it probably wasn't the best script I could've settled with). But at the time, I'd thought the best way to handle my sudden internal chaos and confusion was to give it a goofy name and talk about it with humor as if it were something easy and funny and not-at-all scary.

I guess, for context's sake, I should explain what exactly I'm talking about. My "midlife crisis," a week and a half ago, went along the lines of this: One, I questioned my passivity. Two, I questioned my opinions. Three, I questioned whether I actually had any opinions at all. Four, I wondered if I needed to be more upfront about those opinions (Am I letting people walk all over me? Am I not speaking

my mind enough? Am I not letting my voice be heard, like Mom, Dad and the Disney Channel, tell me I'm supposed to?). Five, I worried I wasn't doing anything productive with my life. Six, I worried that I wasn't on the right track. Seven, I worried, no, scratch that, I panicked, that I would never make any difference at all, that my major was wrong, that my personality was wrong, that I was spending my time all wrong wrong wrong, that I was on the track to nothingness and that I would leave this world without leaving a mark.

Well. Isn't that morbid?

Reading that back again, I can't help but cringe at how obnoxious it sounds because clearly, Lily, none of that is going to happen. I was letting my mind run itself into a melancholic black hole of self-pity, and I recognize now, reading those words and keeling over in embarrassment, that I was worrying about things that weren't going to happen. But it's a sad, stupid fact — you can't always control your mind or your panic.

So back then, to be frank, I was panicked. I wasn't in a good place, and I didn't like to talk about it because it felt wrong. It felt weak to admit I'd lost that trademark Hopkins you-can-do-it-all spark because if everyone else could reign in their stress and cope with the future and handle the harrowing pressure to perform, why shouldn't I? It felt

weak and ridiculous and selfish to complain. I was a Hopkins student. I was blessed, I was happy. I wasn't supposed to complain.

And thus, the "midlife crisis" facade was born. It was a joke. It was something to be taken seriously, something I could hide under when I explained to those around me why I was suddenly so visibly run-down and mopey and why I cried on the phone to my friend back home at 1 a.m.

But here's the truth — and I'm saying this for my sake, too — it's okay to have a serious, no-joke, quasi-midlife crisis, even in your college years. It's really okay.

It's fine to not know what you want — nobody really does. But it's also fine to want to change that, to spend hours, even days, thinking about the big questions of your life and figuring out if what you're doing is what really makes you feel happy and fulfilled.

Honestly, real talk: It's cool to be self-reflective. If you're that kid in the corner, pondering the values in life most important to you or making a semi-clichéd list of Things You Want to Do Before You Die, dude, I respect you so much. (And a week and a half ago, in much less cool-looking terms, maybe I kind of was you).

Gluten-free restaurant  
Sweet 27 impressesCOURTESY OF JULIANA VERACKA  
My personal favorite dish is the salmon, served on top of fried plantains.Juliana Veracka  
Dorm Diets

situations and Celiac's disease. They even offer gluten-free pizza (although I haven't seen that on the menu recently).

When it comes to other food allergies they are also very accommodating. If you need to get something dairy-free, nut-free, whatever, just ask and they'll do their best to make sure you are able to eat what you want. They also offer numerous vegan and vegetarian options. The dishes are all delicious and not things that you can typically order anywhere.

**I** know I've mentioned the restaurant Sweet 27 at least once, but it's such a great place that I decided to do an entire review of it, so that people who've never been there before can get a better idea of why they should head south of campus for a good meal. Fair warning — this is going to be more me raving about a restaurant that I love than a professional, unbiased appraisal.

First of all, there's the ambience. Really, it's just a lovely place to be. It's somewhat dimly lit, especially at night, in that nice way that makes it feel warm and homey.

The restaurant is relatively small, which also contributes to the setting's coziness, although it's not so small that you ever feel like neighboring tables are too close to you. There are these really cute string lights all across the ceiling with white and green coverings that are calming and non-abrasive and add to the comforting and welcoming atmosphere. The wait staff is always really friendly and warm, and they always make an effort to make sure you have everything you need.

Now on to the most important part: the food. The food is actually amazing. My favorite part is that it's all gluten-free. Seriously, all of it. That means that there shouldn't be any risk of cross-contamination there, which is a godsend to people with serious sensi-

## Learning better time management skills in college

Meagan Peoples  
New in Town

**I**t was said so many times during Orientation Week, always becoming ever more creative in its delivery. It was hammered into my skull through the sheer force of repetition, over and over again, explained and re-explained. Finally, I understand why.

Time management: If only all those courses and seminars had made an impact, hadn't been followed by a dismissive "duh" or a "Now I see" or foolishly-optimistic, "Yeah, I got it," then perhaps I wouldn't be writing this article an hour before the deadline.

Yes, what they say is true, kids: University really isn't like high school. They fool you in those first few weeks, make you believe that you're going to be okay by cushioning your fall into this new and intimidating environment. And then suddenly, without warning, a switch is flipped and all hell breaks loose (I believe they refer to it colloquially as "midterms").

I'm no longer sure what my expectations for college were (though

that may just be because I'm on my third cup of coffee), but I now realize that they were tainted with the self-assured ignorance of youth. I no longer believe that being uncaffeinated and getting good grades are mutually exclusive (again, third cup). I can vaguely recall the days where I spent entire afternoons doing nothing (crazy, right?), devoting myself to the holy words of the *Real Housewives of New Jersey* or the infallible wisdom of Honey Boo Boo.

Instead I've been spending day after day locked in my room with only the somber calls of my 9 a.m. dragging me from my dark den (and even then, sometimes they're not enough). Each homework-packed weekend seems like a hollow reward. Every small respite, that one-episode guilty pleasure habit I've created for myself, chips away at that grade which has already suffered a minor blow due to poor class attendance (I swear it's my alarm clock...). More than ever I understand the wistfulness that upperclassmen have when they speak about covered grades, the words always seeming to slip out in hushed tones of longing.

As this day comes to a close I can only pause and wonder where the time went. I'm not exactly sure what god I've angered or which magical cult I mistakenly insulted, but I do know that I'm not the only one who's been feeling this way. I've heard from many others that they feel the same way, and it's comforting to know that I'm not alone.

At Hopkins, you're never without a book to read or a problem set to do.



LOGAN INGALLS/CC-BY-2.0

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## Editorial

# Hopkins must rescind Cosby's honorary degree

In light of the recent sexual assault allegations against Bill Cosby, several universities, including Fordham, Tufts and Brown have rescinded the honorary degrees held by Cosby at their institutions.

For his extensive and impactful career in comedy, Cosby has received nearly 60 honorary degrees, including one from Hopkins in 2004 after he gave the commencement address. Given the horrific nature of the allegations against him, the Editorial Board believes that the University must rescind his honorary degree.

In 2004, Daniel H. Weiss, the dean of Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at the time, awarded the honorary degree. Weiss summarized Cosby's career in comedy and outlined why he deserved the honorary degree.

"Your gift lies not only in making us laugh, but also in making us feel like we are in on the fun," Weiss said. "Both on stage and off, you emphasize achievement and the value of positive role models."

Cosby has been accused of sexual assault by over 50 women, with many of the allegations dating back to the mid-1960s. He has denied all the allegations and has not yet been charged.

Cosby no longer represents achievement nor is he a positive role model. He received the commendation based on his contributions to society as a comedian, but after such a wide range of sexual assault allegations, we believe that the University would absolutely

not award him such an accolade today. Though these are only allegations right now, it is fully within the University's rights to act on this information. An honorary degree is exactly what the name implies — a tremendous honor. He should not be allowed to keep an honorary degree given to him for his accomplishments given the revelation of misconduct.

The student body does not want to be associated with Cosby any longer, and neither should the University. Honorary degrees are not forgotten after the commencement ceremony ends. The University record will forever connect Cosby's name to Hopkins, and any biography of Cosby will forever connect his name to ours.

Moreover, rescinding his degree would convey to the Hopkins community and the public at large that the University stands with victims of sexual assault. In a time when sexual assault on college campuses is such a hot topic, we believe that it is increasingly important for Hopkins to take a public stance against sexual assault, victim blaming and rape culture. While Cosby still holds an honorary degree here, Hopkins is sending the wrong message to the students, the faculty and the public. Choosing to uphold the degree says that there are excuses — his comedic talent, the ceremonial nature of the degree, tradition — that take precedence over sexual assault.

Therefore, the University must rescind this honor.

# Planned Parenthood is a valuable community resource

Last Thursday, the Hopkins Voice for Life chapter presented a display against Planned Parenthood on Gilman Quad. The protest was based around allegations that Planned Parenthood sells the body parts of aborted fetuses to third parties. The group believes that the government should cut Planned Parenthood's federal funding, a view the Editorial Board does not share. We strongly disagree with the notion that Planned Parenthood does not deserve federal funding. In fact, we believe the organization is a pillar of public health.

One serious issue surrounding this Planned Parenthood debate is that a surprising number of people are unaware that the organization offers a wide range of healthcare products and services besides abortions. They distribute birth control, conduct pap tests and breast exams, test for a full panel of sexually transmitted diseases, offer sexual education programs and the list goes on. From a public health standpoint, the organization is essential to our society. And while Hopkins students typically utilize the Health and Wellness Center for such resources, Planned Parenthood centers are often the only

choice for others in the community. The notion that Planned Parenthood only does abortions is naive and just simply untrue.

Planned Parenthood is doing vital work. Everyone should have access to free HIV and STI tests in addition to the condoms that can curb the spread of such diseases. Young mothers should be able to have easy, low-hassle access to abortions. Now more than ever, our community needs the resources that this organization provides. Cutting its federal funding and hindering its operations would prevent the people who need help the most from getting it.

The Editorial Board is strongly pro-choice. (We have described our position in a previous editorial.) However, we also believe that the issue of Planned Parenthood's funding goes beyond being pro-life or pro-choice. At the end of the day, the Editorial Board is pro-women's health. We believe that cutting Planned Parenthood's federal funding would not only be detrimental to millions of Americans, it would be a grave mistake. At a time when our country is more divided than ever, the Editorial Board believes this should be a total non-issue.

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PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

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# OPINIONS

## Running my first 5k made me an addict

BY SABRINA WANG

I remember my first "school run." Two laps around the school field, down toward the classrooms, once around the playground and back up the field where a gym teacher holding a timer waited, screaming encouragements at the finish line.

To this day those memories still make me wince.

I was 10. I had just transferred from another elementary school (where physical activity had a lesser importance in the grand scheme of things); I had never really run before, and most of my classmates were hyperactive athletic kids whose parents encouraged them to move as much as possible.

Looking back I'm fairly certain that I didn't even know how to run. As the gym teacher blew the whistle, the other kids burst from the starting line in a tangle of arms and legs, and I eagerly joined them because, really, what harm was there? My friends had moaned about the school run bitterly before P.E. even started, but I, being the amateur, didn't understand what — or why — they hated it so much until around the second minute in.

It was just as horrible as they described it.

I lost my early sprint within 30 seconds (pacing? What was pacing?) and felt a stabbing pain on my side that increased to massive proportions with each plodding step. The uphill was the worst — a slow torturous incline where no end was visible until the very top, and it was here where I finally started walking, struggling to breathe and not cry and throw up all at once.

The worst part was that my asthmatic best friend, who is ironically a hockey player, finished long before me and was waiting at the finish line. I was dead last, clocking in at six minutes and forty seconds. I didn't have even enough mental strength to feel embarrassed, plopping myself on the grass and leaning my forehead

against the wire fence.

The gym teacher looked at me with pity.

"You're not breathing right," he said, mildly. "Also, you should tuck your arms in. Breathe in through your nose."

The litany of helpful suggestions whistled past my ears. "Okay," I replied, eyes closed, feeling half dead. The nausea still hadn't gone away.

And that was the beginning of my relationship with running.

My best friend tried to console me in the locker room. "It wasn't too bad," she said, as she held her inhaler. But we both knew the truth.

For the next few school runs I performed almost as poorly. Almost. I'm not sure if it was cowardice or extreme desperation; in any case, I attribute my dread to my fear of coming in last.

"Anything but the last," I would chant as I sped-walked up the hill. "Anything but the last," as I circled the field. And finally there was a moment where I could run the entire thing. Soon after I improved tremendously, and my mantra no longer applied. By the end of the year I was one of the first ones to finish.

My time whittled down to three minutes. My gym teacher stupefied. He couldn't believe it. To be honest, neither could I.

But now the problem was that I was experiencing moments of the "runner's high," and I didn't want to let it go. So I joined the cross country team.

To anyone who doesn't know what I look like, I am a very short person. But my now modest stature was bestowed upon me in full when I was in sixth grade — when I towered over most other girls, and cross country races resulted in me placing fairly well. In high school, however, all the other girls started shooting up vertically, while I grew only horizontally. My times became slower and more sluggish and I started to once again dread every practice.

I stopped running sopho-

more year of high school when the turning moment was when I became one of the last girls to cross the finish line.

"Running isn't for me anymore," I told anyone who asked. For the next few years I never touched a treadmill after that race. (I did occasionally run in the park near my house, where no one could see.)

For a long time running was part of my identity. And it was with great trepidation that I started running once again last year. As any runner will tell you, the first five to ten minutes are the worst. You wonder why you ever started the treadmill in the first place, why you decided to lace your sneakers and then the 15 to 20-minute mark hits and all the endorphins rush over you as you finish jubilantly.

And so it was this weekend, I just ran my first 5K in the Baltimore Running Festival.

I didn't want to sign up at first. I had to be convinced. (Did I want to pay \$45? No. Did I eventually? Yes.)

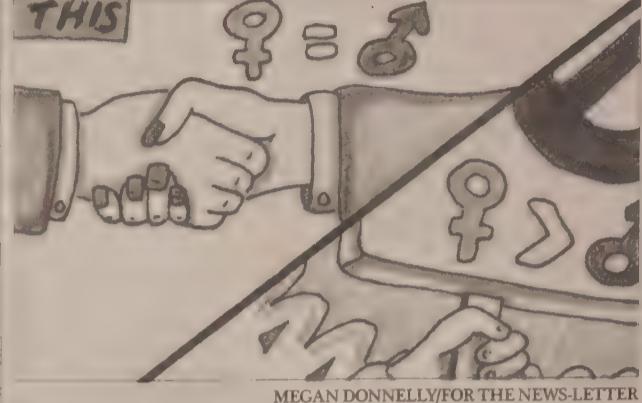
But at the starting line, when I was milling about with thousands of other people, all waiting to do the exact same activity, things began to change a little. Running became a little bigger than what I felt other people would think, if I would finish "first" or "last." People are cheering at you as you thunder down the street, and you're acknowledging everyone who you run with — a sense of togetherness not found anywhere else. Street bands play "Eye of the Tiger," shopkeepers clap their hands in the brisk air and near the end of the race family and friends of other runners whistle as you cross the finish line. The sense of support I felt was empowering.

It was the most euphoric I had ever felt while running. So much so that after we finished, I looked at my boyfriend, grin still split over my face.

"Let's do this again next year," I said.

Sabrina Wang is a sophomore neuroscience major from Vancouver.

## Feminism is much more simple than you think



MEGAN DONNELLY/FOR THE NEWS-LETTER

BY ALEX RICE

hater to be a feminist. Not true.

I thought deeply about this topic a few years ago. There was a boy in my freshman history class who always had an opinion about everything the teacher said. He was oftentimes rude toward the teacher and inconsiderate of others's opinions. To put it bluntly, he annoyed the hell out of me. I would constantly respond to him and counter his points with my own beliefs to try and make him see a different way, but he remained close-minded. It wasn't until sophomore year that I learned how he felt about me. According to one of my close friends, during a discussion of the feminist movement in a history class the next year, this boy said (quite loudly apparently): "Alex Rice is the BIGGEST feminist!"

I was really confused for a while after I heard that comment. First of all, why did speaking my mind and disagreeing with his ideas make me a feminist? Secondly, how is that an insult in any way? It's more insulting to say someone is not a feminist because that makes you sexist and bigoted against women, which is not considered acceptable in my hometown (just north of Boston — a very liberal area). Why did this boy feel the need to try to put me down by stating something that was not insulting?

I've discovered that many people misunderstand what it means to be a feminist. Most people associate that term with intense "manly" women who try to throw their opinions in others's faces and make them accept their views. The term is associated with hating men in general and trying to make them the submissive gender. Again, this is false.

There are intense women who identify as feminists who do not like men, that is true, but the movement in general is about equality. The enemy of feminism is sexist thought and behavior, not men. It just so happens that since men have been in a position of power for thousands of years, they are less likely to accept the movement than women, so there are more problems gaining male support than anything else.

I will never know exactly when I became a feminist because I have been taught to accept men and women as equals. It was the environment I grew up in, and it was confusing to understand that the rest of the world didn't believe in that equality. When I started to learn about the inequality that has been plaguing this country and every country around the world, it was bizarre for me to understand that women have not always been seen as equals. While I understand that the feminist movement is a complex one and that the dream of being complete equals is still in an unforeseen future, I hope I managed to clear the confusion on what it means to be a feminist. One doesn't have to do anything extreme. If one believes men and women should be equal, simply acting on that belief is enough to make a little bit of positive difference.

In Marianne Williamson's book *A Return to Love* there is a passage about actualizing the greatness of our individual characters. This passage is also quoted in *Akeelah and the Bee* and reads, "As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others." We should interpret this as both a community and a generation. Together we can learn to be resilient and to act with integrity, and the rest will follow. The most detrimental failures can be the best gifts.

Alex Rice is a freshman International Studies major from Manchester, Mass.

## Don't squander your failures; learn from each and every one

BY ABBY BIESMAN

Failure is many people's biggest fear and understandably so because we have been raised in a culture and we live in an environment where not only is success expected, but failure seems to indicate lack of future success. Learning to fail is one of the most important skills, tools and experiences we can have. Failure instills resilience in us, which allows us to conquer future hurdles.

But a few years ago my mom posted a sign on our refrigerator that read, "What did you fail today? Congratulations!" My parents wanted us to not be afraid of failure, to not be inhibited by it and to learn to grow from it. Their goal was to provide us the tools to handle failure and to cope with it. If we failed because of a lack of effort, we would have to suffer the consequences of our inability to take action and those were our only reprimanded failures. And failure was not just a bad or unsatisfactory grade. It was failing a close friend, a family member, a teacher. It was failing our own personal goals and ourselves. The majority of our failures in life will most likely occur outside of the classroom.

The fear of failure contributes to academic culture — it increases anxiety, invoking

health issues such as poor eating habits and lack of sleep. In this sense, it is destructive to learning culture. We are so focused on succeeding, on getting above the average, that we forget why we are learning. Oftentimes we study for an exam and then forget everything on it simply because we don't feel that knowledge is any longer applicable or necessary.

I had a teacher in high school, Dr. Echard, who was the epitome of a life-long learner. He taught AP European History my senior year. He lectured

largely from memory, remembering the most intricate details, really bringing history to life for the class while simultaneously being a scholar of art and languages among other fields. We covered material unnecessary for the test, but that he wanted us to know. He taught us for the sake of learning.

His class was designed like a college course, and we had very few grades. Before our first test he gave us a lecture about integrity, telling us that this is largely the one thing we choose in our lives. In a way, our friends are predicated for us. Our family is

circumstantial. Our lifestyles are consequential. But we can choose our integrity. Going to a high school with a strict honor code, he encouraged us to sacrifice points on an assignment rather than to violate our integrity. We will never remember those points we lost but we will always remember violating our integrity.

When I go back home I try to pay him a visit because not only did he teach me history, he taught me a new approach to life. And regardless of our grade, of our intellect, he

treated each of his students with the same level of respect, never favoring the 'A' student nor reprimanding the 'C' student. He simply encouraged individual excellence.

I have learned that failure is not an indicator of who I am as a person — only I can determine that. Failure is inevitable and it is okay to fail. How I respond to failure is an indicator of my character. This principle is one that I still struggle to actualize.

What I am not suggesting is that it is okay to be lackadaisical, to forget about our work and our responsibilities. But it

is okay to put our best foot forward and to find that it's not enough. These events should not tear us apart, and we learn from them so that we can act differently in the future. We are always growing and we are always learning.

When we act with integrity, we will find that we reach for excellence and not for perfection. Perfectionism is sometimes indoctrinated from outer pressures whereas striving for excellence must come from within. Our ability to maintain our integrity and our ability to be resilient can lead to success and are a part of success's foundation. These traits will also help us cope with failure.

In Marianne Williamson's book *A Return to Love* there is a passage about actualizing the greatness of our individual characters. This passage is also quoted in *Akeelah and the Bee* and reads, "As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others." We should interpret this as both a community and a generation. Together we can learn to be resilient and to act with integrity, and the rest will follow. The most detrimental failures can be the best gifts.

Abby Biesman is a sophomore International Studies major from Nashville.

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# PHOTO ESSAY

## Once Upon a News-Letter Halloween



# THE B SECTION

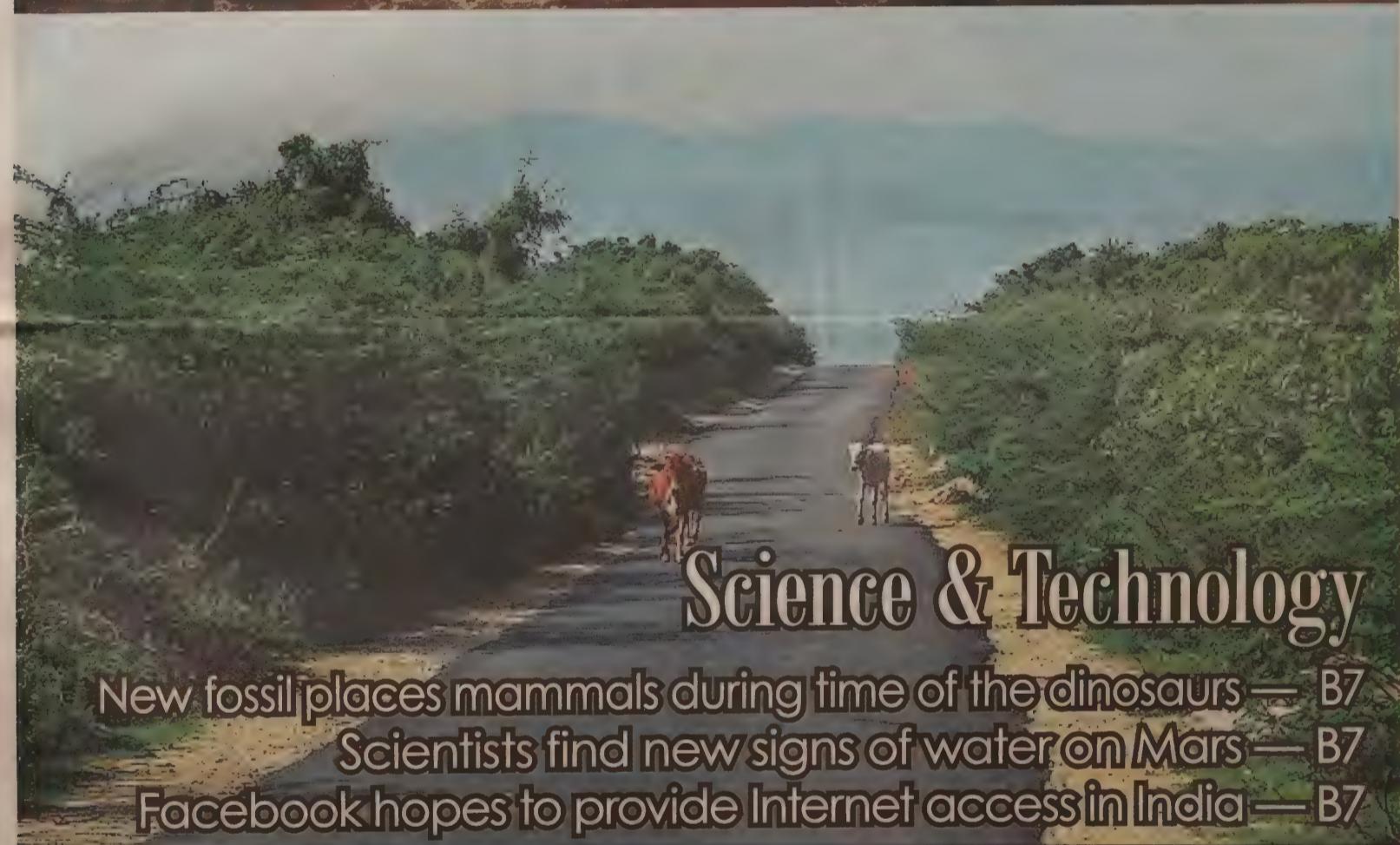
Your Weekend • Arts & Entertainment • Cartoons, Etc. • Science & Technology • Sports

OCTOBER 29, 2015



## Arts & Entertainment

Barnstormers stages "The Mousetrap" — B3  
MICA hosts a thrilling haunted house — B3  
Flashframe Film Review: *Goosebumps* earns 5/10 stars — B4



## Science & Technology

New fossil places mammals during time of the dinosaurs — B7  
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Water Polo becomes Collegiate D-III Champions — B11  
Football beats Gettysburg 36-7, remains undefeated — B12

# YOUR WEEKEND Oct. 29- Nov. 1

## Celebrate Halloween in Baltimore

### Hampden

#### Hampden HalloweenFest 2015

Area around 36th street, 5-8 p.m.

Start off your evening by Trick-or-Treating with Hampden Merchants. There will be a costume contest and lots of treats. The event is free and within walking distance of campus!

### Station North

#### PSYCHD-O-WEEN

The Crown, 9 p.m.

Join a group of experimental psych-influenced Baltimore producers and musicians including Normaling and Yung Ebt. There is a \$8 entry fee, \$5 with costume. Take the JHMI to Penn Station to get to Station North free of cost.

#### Ghoul's Night Out

Metro Gallery, 9 p.m.

For \$10 listen to the sweet rock and roll tunes of The Flying Eyes (good for fans of classic rock and indie lovers alike). There will be drink specials for those in costume.

Note: this event is 21+.

### Canton

#### Sinners and Saints Block Party

Various locations, 10 p.m. 2 a.m.

Live DJ sets, drink specials, no covers for participating bars: these are all the glories awaiting you at the Sinners and Saints Block Party in Canton. Register online for \$10 to gain access to all four participating nightlife establishments.

Note: this event is 21+.

### Federal Hill

#### HILL-O-WEEN at Federal Hill

Various locations, 5 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Register for \$25 to gain access to 17+ nightlife establishments featuring food and drink specials. This is the largest Halloween event in Baltimore and is a hit every year.

Note: this event is 21+.

### Inner Harbor

#### Haunted Carnival Halloween 2.0

Power Plant Live!, 8 p.m.

Each bar at everyone's favorite boozy waterfront location will feature a different carnival theme. There will be over \$15,000 in cash and prizes.

Note: This event is 21+.

## Upperclassmen's top picks around campus

By MIA CAPOBIANCO  
Your Weekend Editor

It's getting to that time in the semester when it's easy to get stuck in a rut. Hopkins students get tired and opt for convenience over novelty when it comes to planning their weekends. I decided to ask some of the hippest upperclassmen I know about their favorite spots in Baltimore. Hopefully their recommendations can inspire you to rejuvenate your weekend with new off-campus finds and old favorites.

#### WHAT IS THE BEST...

##### PLACE TO STUDY OFF CAMPUS?

Jane Morris, class of 2017: I like Red Emma's in Station North because it's close and it's not Starbucks — my only criteria. Red Emma's also has good coffee... and nachos.

Warner Mason, class of 2017: I really enjoy doing readings in Starbucks or Carma's because I like to think it makes me look pensive even though I'm likely reading at a remedial pace and looking confused.

John Durovsk, class of 2016: Finding a spot to study off campus is incredibly difficult — ambience, table size and proximity are all of equal and incredible importance. I enjoy working at the Bun Shop, this spot has great coffee and food. Milk & Honey, an adjacent market, is also a good work spot when I can tolerate a livelier atmosphere.

Kate Buchser, class of 2016: Peabody is dope. Sascha's by there is great too. I really don't study off campus; I occasionally bring blankets to the Brody reading room, if that's any indicator of my study habits/locations.

##### PLACE TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC?

JM: I'm a fan of the Crown, which is great if you're trying to see more local acts.

WM: The 9:30 Club in D.C. It's a really intimate venue and they book surprisingly popular artists.

JD: I'm not so connected with the Baltimore music scene, yet my two friends, Rosie and Noah, always pull me to the Ottobar or The Crown for various performances.

KB: In Baltimore, The Crown and the Ottobar... For the best bigger names, the 9:30 club in D.C.



COURTESY OF MIA CAPOBIANCO  
Jane Morris at Metro Gallery in Station North, whiskey sour in hand.

#### WHERE DO YOU GO FOR...

##### CHEAP FOOD?

JM: Byblo's in Federal Hill is far but if you call in advance they will bring you a Lebanese feast for \$20 and it's BYOB.

WM: If you're from Baltimore or have a car you probably know that Royal Farms has amazing fried chicken that is rather affordable. I take comfort in knowing that when friend chicken is that cheap there's no calories in it.

JD: For cheap food on-campus I always opt for Ajuma (re: Chicken Bulgogi). An off-campus option is Bar Clavel where you order inexpensive tacos, ceviches and quesadillas and pair them with (more expensive) mezcal cocktails.

KB: Try Grano in Hampden. Their pesto sauce mixed with one of their cheese sauces is to die for. It is also the only place that I will eat meatballs from, they're amazing. And their tiramisu. Take advantage of restaurant week; While the food isn't by any means cheap, it's less expensive than usual and you get a good taste of the menus.

##### SPLURGE MEALS?

JM: Whenever my parents are in town I try to convince them to take me to Food Market.

WM: I'm not sure if this qualifies as splurging but I'd be remiss if I didn't mention Atwater's in Belvedere Square. Again, you'd probably need a car to get there but their chicken salad is life-changing.

JD: When indulging, my friends and I enjoy B. Bistro. Although the atmosphere is a bit tired and the clientele is a bit older, the food is great and the vibes can be made better with a good crowd. A relatively new spot is La Cuchara, a tapas restaurant with a modern feel.

KB: If by splurge you mean calorie-wise, go to the Charmery. Their butter pecan ice cream is off the chain. Otherwise, I've had great food at the Lebanese restaurant by the water.

##### CHEAP DRINKS?

JM: One time I went to The Dizz with my roommate and discovered that every drink there is \$3... so the Dizz.

WM: Honestly, I'm not much of a "drinks" person, I tend to go for wine time and time again. Eddie's and HopDeli carry this Malbec called Altosur that is pretty tasty and is like 10 bucks.

JD: I'll occasionally invite my close friend Becky to guest bartend the curated bar cart in my room, so sometimes the cheapest drinks are the ones closest to home. If I'm leaving the apartment (and the larger Hopkins campus), I would probably pick up a bottle of wine at Eddie's and head to a local BYOB (Bottega, Asahi, Iggy's...).

KB: Ottobar twofer Tuesdays, bitches.

##### GOOD COCKTAILS?

JM: Brewer's Art? I'm not the right person to ask because I feel like the only benchmark for a good cocktail is bitters?

WM: If I'm feeling ambitious and in the mood to do nothing all day on a Sunday, getting mimosas at Miss Shirley's usually does the trick.

JD: Chic Bar, a pseudonym for a spot dear to my friends and me, is an intimate, candle-lit bar located relatively close to campus. The cocktails are great, there is the occasional live string instrument, and the breadboards are the perfect over-drinks snack. I would disclose the name, but I have been strongly encouraged not to. If you can decipher this profile, maybe I'll see you there.

KB: Holy Frijoles margaritas; The blushing geisha at the sushi place by the water (RA Sushi Bar & Restaurant).

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPOT TO...

##### EXPERIENCE NATURE IN BALTIMORE?

JM: The Sherwood Gardens right by campus in Roland Park... can't say I got there often, but it's pretty.

WM: Taking a hike/nature walk around Lake Roland is a really good way to get my rare nature fix. If I don't feel like driving off campus, walking through Guilford or Roland Park is a really calming experience.

JD: If you have a car, take a short drive to Patapsco State Park. There are great hiking trails, a terrifying abandoned house I've never explored, and a river to swim in. I went just last week and (foolishly) squeezed in a pre-winter dip.

KB: What is nature? I only know specimens of it from the cases in the Brody reading room. The sculpture garden is great if that counts.

##### ESCAPE THE USUAL HOPKINS CROWD?

JM: I like to hide in plain sight at CVP because no one goes there and it's 20 feet away from my apartment. WM: It's really easy to get caught up in the Hopkins bubble. It's also really easy to get to Penn Station and drop 8 bucks on a MARC ticket and go explore our nation's capital. Some of my closest friends go to school at either Georgetown or GW, and when I'm visiting them, I feel like I'm a world away from Baltimore.

JD: If I'm really trying to escape the Hopkins crowd, I'll head home for the weekend to Philadelphia. If I choose to stay in Baltimore, I'll avoid a night of gin and tonics and dance music and opt for an extended dinner, maybe at Salt or Parts & Labor, with close friends.

KB: Brody Learning Commons. That place is a desert.

##### SHOP (FOR WHATEVER YOU'RE INTO)?

JM: The Value Village in Highlandtown is a gold mine.

WM: Disclaimer: This shop is not in a good area, at all. But, Patapsco Valley Sales & Supply Co has this massive warehouse where you can browse literally thousands of cool pieces of pottery and other items. It's a wholesale warehouse so their stuff is extremely cheap.

JD: I'm very into design and ceramics and have yet to find a spot in Baltimore that caters to these interests. I guess I would answer Artist & Craftsman Supply, an art store on North Ave in which a visit would inevitably lead to a productive day of water-coloring, gold-leafing, etc.

KB: Soundgarden, for records! The antique and junk shops in Hampden are pretty dope also.



COURTESY OF MIA CAPOBIANCO  
The gorgeous Kate Buchser in her apartment before a night out.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Barnstormers stage classic murder mystery

By SPENCER ABROHMS  
For The News-Letter

The Barnstormers premiered their production of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*, an intense, intriguing and funny whodunit murder mystery, in Swirnow Theater on Friday, Oct. 23.

*The Mousetrap*, first performed in 1952, details a fateful night when Mr. and Mrs. Ralston, compellingly played by juniors Neil Fendley and Maura Kantor, respectively, decide to convert Monkswell Manor into a guest house. They run into bad luck when a terrible blizzard keeps them and their guests trapped in the house.

Suddenly, Detective Sergeant Trotter, played by junior Zachary King, barges in to reveal that someone in the house has a connection to the murder of a woman named Maureen Lyon and



COURTESY OF STEPHAN CAPRILES

With intense commitment to their roles, The Barnstormers performed Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*.

a guest may be at risk of being killed — or the murderer may be in the house.

Possible suspects include the eccentric architect Christopher Wren, played by sophomore Donhem Brown; the strong woman Miss Casewell, played by

anthropic old lady Mrs. Boyle, played by senior Michelle Paragament; the retired military man Major Metcalf, played by sophomore Donhem Brown; the strong woman Miss Casewell, played by

junior Alana DiSabatino; and the strange man who came without an appointment, Mr. Paravincini, played by graduate student Ramanujan Srinath.

With the actors's intense commitment to their roles, and with the red herring and

other plot complexities, *The Mousetrap* kept this reviewer guessing until the shocking conclusion.

It was evident that the cast and crew had put in a lot of work into the production. Director Andy Scott had nothing but praise for the work ethic of his cast.

"One interesting thing is that everyone is just coming from class, and I was originally preparing to deal with people who were tired and exhausted," Scott said.

"Even if they were tired, they were able to comment and turn on rehearsal mode in their mind. Everyone was really intuitive and could think on their feet, and no one ever came unmotivated, which was really refreshing because sometimes you even have professional actors come to your rehearsals unmotivated."

Before the cast and crew began blocking and performing the play, they first analyzed the script to understand each of the character's unique perspectives, and this really showed in the body language and speaking tones of characters.

"Dissecting the play by having the script right in front of us, and just reading it helps create

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Goosebumps struggles to find an audience



**Tim Freborg**  
Flashframe Film  
Reviews



COURTESY OF VAGUEONTHEHOW/CC-BY-2.0  
Jack Black plays the character R.L. Stine, author of the popular children's book series, *Goosebumps*.

**G**oosebumps is, without a doubt, the best and most competent horror movie to come out this Halloween season. In many respects this fact is both hilarious and extremely depressing, but considering that the film's biggest box office competition is the tired *Paranormal Activity* rehash, I suppose it's not entirely surprising.

*Goosebumps*, a series of children's novels written by author R.L. Stine, is not exactly an unknown franchise. Wildly popular in the late 90s and early 2000s, the stories were loved by young readers and often served to invite them into the horror genre. Unlike other popular series of the moment, like *Harry Potter*, however, time was not quite as kind to Stine's work, which quickly fell out of the public eye once publication ceased.

The original audience that read Stine's stories is now college-aged, and at long last a film adaptation of these childhood favorites is hitting the big screen.

Directed by Rob Letterman, the film utilizes a metafictive, throwback approach, bringing many of Stine's creations to life on screen. From yetis to crazed puppets, the film creates a sort of twisted, *Avengers*-esque homage to our favorite childhood nightmares.

That being said, these stories were never well-known for their depth or intricacies, and in fact many were left behind in one's grade school days. How, moving beyond nostalgic appeal, can a movie like this hold up when viewed with older, modern eyes?

The film opens on

main character Zach Cooper as he becomes fascinated with his curiously reclusive and standoffish neighbors, Mr. Shivers (Jack Black) and his daughter Hannah. One night, after a scream resonates from the Shivers household, Zach and his friend Champ (Ryan Lee) sneak into their neighbor's home only to discover a terrifying secret: The home is filled with books, which, when opened, are capable of releasing horrifying creatures into the world.

As more and more beasts escape their imprisonment, Zach, his friends and his neighbors must find a way to rein in the chaos. Through these efforts come the answers to the questions: Who are his neighbors, and why do they have these books in the first place?

The story itself functions just fine as a piece of metafiction. In fact its twist and incorporation of the series license is actually far more clever than one might initially assume.

The film is able to draw on monsters and characters scattered across the entirety of the series. This creates an incredibly unique and diverse cast of all sorts of creepy ghouls of the night.

For someone who grew up reading a lot of these stories as a child, there is certainly a lot of nostalgia to be found during the film's hundred-minute runtime.

That being said, the nostalgia factor is the only substantial appeal the film really has going for it, and that's the unfortunate aspect of the film's existence. Being based on a series clearly targeted at younger audiences, it's only natural that the film carries that same childlike allure. Its primary demographic is young. However, the series upon which the film is based is now nearly a decade old, and its audience has aged with it.

Who, then, should the film target? Is it more beneficial to aim young and bring in the current generation of children, or aim high and appeal to the nostalgia of those who were fans at the apex of the series' popularity?

Unfortunately this film doesn't quite know which side to take, making it difficult to tell for whom precisely the film is made. Its writing errs on the side of being too safe and childish to capture older audiences while its characters, settings and set pieces are clearly selected in an attempt to appeal to a more

observant, older audience.

These confusions are intensified by the film's pacing, which rushes audiences from monster to monster and action scene to action scene so quickly and jarringly that it's surprisingly difficult to keep the plot details straight.

Jack Black, in an admittedly admirable performance (especially when one considers that his performances in children's films have not historically been of the highest quality), attempts to keep the film grounded. However, his performance alone is insufficient to keep the film on track.

The end result? A confused, scattered and rushed story that seems not to fully understand whom it is meant for.

Make no mistake, despite these numerous complaints *Goosebumps* is a harmless and arguably decent film, especially for younger audiences. There's very little that is outright bad about the film, and it certainly does have several nostalgic trips for anyone itching to see some of their favorite Stine monsters come to life.

What the film lacks is focus, both in concept and execution. Had the film dedicated a bit more time to developing its plot and fleshing out individual characters, monsters and concepts, then this could have joined the likes of Pixar films as a shining example of cinema targeted at all ages. In its current form, this is just not *Toy Story*. Best to leave this one to the kids.

Overall rating: 5/10

**GOOSEBUMPS**

**Starring:** Jack Black, Dylan Minnette, Odeya Rush, Ryan Lee

**Director:** Rob Letterman

**Run Time:** 103 min.

**Rating:** PG

**Now Playing:** Cinemark Towson, Eastpoint 10 Cinemas

in the current generation of children, or aim high and appeal to the nostalgia of those who were fans at the apex of the series' popularity?

Unfortunately this film doesn't quite know which side to take, making it difficult to tell for whom precisely the film is made. Its writing errs on the side of being too safe and childish to capture older audiences while its characters, settings and set pieces are clearly selected in an attempt to appeal to a more

ties hip-hop and space jazz on peyote.

This album is often sad, all the more so because it's relatable. It's often funny, too — the lighthearted references and bizarre ad libs peppering songs break up the often self-deprecating lyrics.

Christmas's rap is highly self-referential to the genre and pop culture as a whole. He gives shout-outs to popular rap heavyweights like Rick Ross (sampled in "Hate"), Drake ("Running through the six with no hoes"), Future, Chief Keef and Migos. He also rhymes about the Catalina F\*\*\*ing Wine Mixer, GIFs and emojis — basically all the things most people in the latter half of their teenage years value.

Speaking of which, *What A Weird Day* is accented with features from the likes of Gaithersburg, Md.'s own Logic on "Where You Been?" and popular Pittsburgh goon Mac Miller on "Grab Her Hand." All this millennial trivia is laid over some seriously strange but catchy beats that vary between nine-

# Interactive haunted house scares viewers

**MICA, FROM B3**  
audience members in their journey through the haunted house. In many scenes the actors would take a viewer's hand and guide them to an increasingly frightening element of that scene, forcing them to the forefront of their nightmares.

For example, in a muted party scene, grave-looking actors hovered over viewers and ushered them towards a wall punctured with peepholes. Looking through these tiny apertures, viewers saw another scene in which an unfortunate girl was having her mouth stitched shut.

Also during this party scene, one audience member was pulled away and had a mask placed on her face.

In other scenes, actors worked to inhibit viewer's passage through the haunted house. For instance a girl emerged suddenly

from one scene, grabbing an unsuspecting patron's foot in order to stop anyone from leaving the area. In addition demonic clowns forced audience members to duck underneath a rainbow parachute in order move forward. These interactions were both unpredictable and unexpected, thereby adding to the overall tension and fear created.

Other notable scenes within the haunted house included a tooth extraction, a cemetery, a bloody bathroom and an area in which zombie-like characters ironed and did other household chores.

"This year we're trying to incorporate all senses," Tucker said.

This goal was certainly achieved through the actor-audience interaction. MICA created a truly frightening overall experience with their "Fever Dream" haunted house this year.



COURTESY OF ANNA GOODRIDGE  
The MICA haunted house featured a variety of frightening scenes.

# Baltimore Folk Festival shows local performers

**FOLK, FROM B3**  
chorus. Because they quickly won over the audience with their costumes and amiable demeanor, the group members did not seem to care about talking to one another throughout the setlist or worry about minor errors.

"We're not very good at this — at being a band," one of the banjo players said.

Two other groups that performed in the intimate upstairs space were The Plate Scrapers and The Ampersand Stringband, both consisting of traditional folk quartet instruments: a guitar, a double bass, a mandolin and a banjo.

The Plate Scrapers stirred up the crowd, particularly during an upbeat cover of Bob Dylan's "Maggie's Farm." Audience members whooped and stomped along, calling out phrases like "Oh banjo!"

Meanwhile the audience for The Ampersand Stringband was almost completely silent for the duration of their quieter, more-restrained performance. Each member was clearly skilled at their respective instruments, with a great deal of attention and praise directed to the intricate abilities of mandolin player Nate Lanzino and guitarist Cory Chubb. The group's mellow four-part harmony helped bring a new take on old country songs like "The Streets of Baltimore" and even traditional folk songs like "Reuben's Train."

Venturing back downstairs, one of the most distinctive alternative folk groups was Big

Hoax, a Maryland-based band that often changes its members and instruments. On this particular night, the band consisted of an electric bass, an acoustic guitar, a drum set and an electric cello.

In addition to the unusual use of an electric cello, the band also stood apart in its lead singer Luke Alexander's use of a slight Irish accent which gave the performance a Celtic-rock feel.

Despite the group's energy, Alexander in particular seemed to exude an almost manic presence throughout. With the persistent desire for the audience to come forward towards the stage, Big Hoax could not quite capture the excitement of its limited audience who stood static for most of the performance.

Another group that fell victim to the ambivalence of a smaller audience was Sweet Saro, the first performers on the downstairs stage. In spite of a sporadic crowd that was just starting to filter into the venue, the charm and pleasant vocals of lead singer Abby Becker did manage to engage many audience members.

Like other groups of the night, Sweet Saro excelled in creating smooth harmonies that held a perfect balance between traditional and modern folk music. The double bass, covered in some kind of Christmas sweater, was also highlighted in the performance and could be heard keeping time over the light tinkling of the mandolin and dramatic flare of the keyboard.

# Michael Christmas drops relateable rap album

**By WILL KIRSCH**  
For The News-Letter

Twenty-year-old Boston rapper Michael Christmas's second album, *What A Weird Day*, a self-deprecating and brutally honest follow-up to his 2014 debut *Is This Art?*, dropped on Friday.

Christmas's first album was essentially an ode to the lost millennial — the kind of person who does not really know what their doing nor do they care. With songs like "Drunk" and "Daily," Christmas encapsulated the hedonistic but ultimately unfulfilling lifestyle of the male, age 18-22 demographic.

This may seem like a bit of a stretch for a less-than-well-known rapper whose lyrics about Hot Pockets and masturbation are far from heart-wrenching, but he manages to make them relateable. Christmas's first album was not a one-off, and *What A Weird Day* is a continuation of the gen-

eral theme — the beautiful aimlessness of the young adult.

Christmas is not the type of rapper to sing his own praises. Every toast is followed by some back-handed self-criticism. He laughs off the things that other artists devote whole songs to complaining about. In the closing track on the album, "Gay Black Model Remix," one of several songs whose names do not really make sense — Christmas raps, "Made more sense talking 'bout my problems in punchlines."

That one line can summarize a large part of the album: It is equal parts sad and funny, devoid of self-esteem and recklessly frivolous. In "Everything Burrito," Christmas goes from pointing at his success and laughing at everyone with hefty college debt to joking about suicide, all over a beat that is swooping, ethereal, abrupt and sharp. In more uptempo songs

like "Hate," Christmas manages to sneak in a little dark humor. A line from the chorus is "Keep them expectations low though."

Christmas's rap is highly self-referential to the genre and pop culture as a whole. He gives shout-outs to popular rap heavyweights like Rick Ross (sampled in "Hate"), Drake ("Running through the six with no hoes"), Future, Chief Keef and Migos. He also rhymes about the Catalina F\*\*\*ing Wine Mixer, GIFs and emojis — basically all the things most people in the latter half of their teenage years value.

Speaking of which, *What A Weird Day* is accented with features from the likes of Gaithersburg, Md.'s own Logic on "Where You Been?" and popular Pittsburgh goon Mac Miller on "Grab Her Hand." All this millennial trivia is laid over some seriously strange but catchy beats that vary between nine-

ties hip-hop and space jazz on peyote.

This album is often sad, all the more so because it's relatable. It's often funny, too — the lighthearted references and bizarre ad libs peppering songs break up the often self-deprecating lyrics.

Christmas makes it okay to be unconfident, a little nervous and slightly too inebriated at a grimy house party; He makes it okay to sleep until noon, spend the day watching cartoons, eat fast food at two in the morning and wake up sweating grease. He makes it cool to be imperfect.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# The News-Letter's Halloween Movie picks

## Hocus Pocus

"It's funny, and it puts me in the Halloween spirit."

— Catherine Palmer, News & Features Editor



ALAN LIGHT/CC-BY-2.0



HEATHER WEAVER/CC-BY-SA 2.0

## It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown

"I like the nostalgic Charlie Brown, and I can't watch scary movies."

— Sarah Schreib, Arts & Entertainment Editor

## Halloween

"It's a classic slasher movie, and Michael Myers is terrifying because he has no sense of urgency."

— Amanda Auble, Arts & Entertainment Editor



STVTRON/CC-BY-SA-2.5



COURTESY OF MAKEUP DIVA VIA FANPOP

## Mean Girls

"It's a bit of a stretch to call this a 'Halloween movie,' but the Halloween scenes are so iconic."

— Emily Herman, Arts & Entertainment Editor



COURTESY OF HEATHBABY VIA FANPOP

## Shutter Island

"It'll have you questioning your sanity by the end. And Leonardo DiCaprio isn't bad either."

— Samhita Ilango, Editor-In-Chief



COURTESY OF -OBSESSIVE- VIA FANPOP

## The Conjuring

"What was really scary was just how good the cinematography was."

— Zach Zilber, Managing Editor

## Montrose Trio performs Beethoven and Brahms

TRIO, FROM B3  
part due to its obscurity. Although the other musical selections that were performed were very good, they are also already much more well-known.

Like much of Lee's work, this composition was inspired by biblical scenes, and this one in particular was focused on the Book of Revelation. The piece was dynamic with a mixture of fast and slow, light and

serious and clear and chaotic. The violin stood out, especially during the end of the piece when it became strong and aggressive.

Nonetheless, the stage was naturally set by Beethoven's work. The traditionalist piece gave nods to other famous composers, but notably it had strong, upbeat and conclusive finish. The cello set the stage for this piece, especially in the final movement, where it built to its

conclusion. Parker's piano playing shined, especially at the end.

The night's concert was capped off by Brahms, which started in a light and mellow tone but progressively became darker and more serious. Brahms's original piece went through an interesting series of revisions when it was first composed — it was born out of his conflicted emotions in a complicated love affair and refined by

the wisdom of an older Brahms 35 years later.

This concert drew a solid turnout from the Baltimore community. Although Shriver Hall was not packed, most seats were filled.

The crowd tended to be quite elderly, but a stronger turnout from Hopkins students should be encouraged to attend these events, especially since tickets are free for Hopkins and Peabody students.

## Rapper Milo reflects on violence, identity

By DUBRAY KINNEY

For The News-Letter

Hip hop musician Rory Ferreira, who goes by the stage name of Milo, performed on Friday, Oct. 23 alongside a number of other rappers at The Crown, including local talents such as Hemlock Ernst and Al Rogers, Jr.

As the third stop on Milo's Late Sleeping Utopian tour, the show itself took place at the Crown's Red Room, and the audience for the sets ranged from sparse to somewhat packed.

Milo, originally from Wisconsin, is known for his affiliation with the label Hellfire Club, which features other contemporary alternative hip-hop artists such as Busdriver, Open Mike Eagle and Nocando.

Helming three new projects, Milo has had a big year in 2015. He appeared on a compilation with other Hellfire Club members, *Catcher of The Fade*, and released an EP under his pseudonym, Scallop Hotel, entitled "Plain Speaking."

Yet his biggest project this year has to be his sophomore full-album release, "So the Flies Don't Come," which dropped in September.

According to Milo, this latest release came about as a spontaneous collaboration with Kenny Segal, a Los Angeles hip hop and electronic music producer. "I was sleeping on Kenny Segal's couch, and he's a beat-maker, and I'm a rapper. So a rap album might get made," he said.

Milo took the stage as the second-to-last act, and he garnered the largest audience. As his set started, the audience moved from nodding their heads slowly while the rhymes of the 23-year-old rapper meshed and flowed, dancing frantically as he played more up-tempo beats.

The rapper's songs expressed existential feelings on a wide range of subject matters from race to identity. Throughout multiple portions of the show, opener Hemlock Ernst joined Milo on stage to rap his parts to songs featured on Milo's latest release.

One moment that stood out in particular was when

Milo paced back and forth as he rapped the chorus to his album's closer, "Song About a Raygun (An Ode to Driver)."

"I don't even really have to rap, my n\*\*\*er, it's about if you can talk good," Milo rapped.

This lyric became a sort of chant among the audience and also served to highlight a performance that featured poems and a wide range of sounds.

"I would say that every eight hours a black American is killed by a cop," he said on what influenced "So the Flies Don't Come."

In an unfortunate turn of events for the rhythm of the performance, the majority of the audience left after Milo finished.

As a result, the crowd missed the surprise final act. Al Rogers, Jr. followed Milo, and he looked out with disappointment when he noticed that the crowd that previously numbered at least 50-deep had fallen to only about eight persons.

The mass exodus is even more disappointing since Rogers, Jr. is a real standout within a growing Baltimore rap scene.

Rogers, Jr. was backed up by another local musician and producer Drew Scott, whose work with Rogers, Jr. includes the upcoming "Luvadocious," an album that serves as a collaboration between the two.

Although the show's audience started out small, the energy and pace of Rogers, Jr.'s set gradually increased. With that increase in energy, a set that had been shortened to just a few songs garnered an encore.

A real highlight of Rogers, Jr.'s performance was midway through his third song when he threw down his microphone and began dancing frantically among the audience members.

As his performance came to an end, this reviewer was left with a really positive opinion of him and the manner in which he took a negative situation and managed to change it into a great performance nonetheless.

## The Mousetrap offers mind games, drama

MOUSETRAP, FROM B3  
your character's perspective. You know exactly how they are responding to what the other character is saying, so that way, when you're blocking and you're up on your feet. In [the theatre] you feel like you have a full bag of tricks," Scott said.

The analysis helped Scott and the cast come to the realization of what makes "The Mousetrap" so exciting and nerve-wracking. The characters all accuse each other of wrongdoing and let paranoia run rampant because they realize that each of their personas might just be a façade.

"As much as you think you know someone, you can't be inside their mind, and you don't really know what they are thinking all the time," Scott said.

"There are parts of this play where the characters suspect each other of being the murderer and that's a really fascinating, terrifying, yet funny way of looking at what people are capable of, whether it's a person you met yesterday or have been sleeping in bed with for a year."

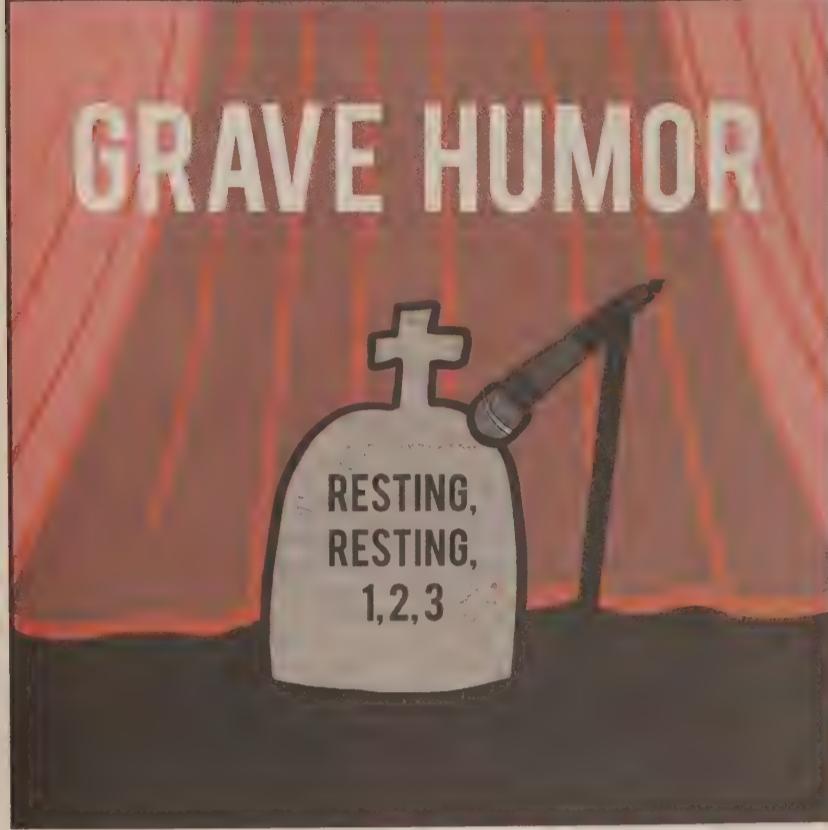
"The Mousetrap" plays like a game with an audience where each audience member tries to piece together the clues and discover who the murderer is themselves. Every audience member must swear under oath before leaving the production to keep the murderer's identity a secret.

You'll have to find out who the killer is for yourself when the show returns to Swirnow Theater in the Mattin Center from Oct. 30 to Nov. 1.

# CARTOONS, ETC.

## Grave Humor

By Stephanie Herrera



Q. WHAT INSTRUMENT DO SKELETONS PLAY?

A. TROMBONE!

Q. WHAT IS A GHOST'S FAVORITE MEAL?

A. SPOOKETTI AND MEATBALLS!

Q. WHICH GHOST IS THE BEST DANCER?

A. THE BOOGIE MAN!

Q. WHAT DOES A SKELETON ORDER AT A RESTAURANT?

A. SPARE RIBS!

Q. WHAT'S A GHOST'S FAVORITE MEAL?

A. GHOULASH!

Q. WHERE DO HOPKINS GHOSTS EAT?

A. THE BAMBOO CAFE!

Q. WHAT DO CALL THE RATIO OF A JACK-O-LANTERN'S CIRCUMFERENCE TO IT'S DIAMETER?

A. PUMPKIN  $\pi$ !

Q. HOW DO MONSTERS TELL THEIR FUTURE?

A. THEY READ THEIR HORROSCOPE!

Q. WHERE DOES DRACULA KEEP HIS VALUABLES?

A. IN A BLOOD BANK!

Q. WHY DIDN'T THE SKELETON GO TO THE DATE PARTY?

A. BECAUSE HE HAD NO BODY TO GO WITH!

Q. WHAT DO MUMMIES LIKE LISTENING TO ON HALLOWEEN?

A. WRAP MUSIC!

Q. WHAT TYPE OF ART DO SKELETONS LIKE?

A. SKULLPTURES!

Q. WHAT DO YOU CALL TWO WITCHES LIVING TOGETHER?

A. BROOMMATES!

## Fault Line

By Ava Qaxaca



# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Scientists discover early mammalian fossil



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF OSCAR SANISIDRO  
An artist's illustration shows what *Spinoletes* may have looked like.

By PAIGE FRANK  
For The News-Letter

One of the mysteries of paleontology is the exact starting point of the Age of Mammals, when the death of the dinosaurs allowed mammalian life to diversify and take over the planet.

Earlier this month, though, the line grew a little clearer when scientists from the Autonomous University of Madrid, University of Bonn and the University of Chicago published the results of a new fossil discovery in Spain.

The discovery of the new organism, *Spinoletes xenarthrosus*, officially moves the previous record of preserved mammalian structures back 60 million years earlier than was previously thought. It places the existence of mammals on Earth during the age of the dino-

saur, over 125 million years ago.

Scientists were able to identify preserved soft tissue from the fossil, including the liver, lung and diaphragm. They were also able to discern finer details such as intact guard hairs, underfur and hedgehog-like spines.

Several of the anatomical structures preserved in the fossil are the first or earliest of their kind.

The *Spinoletes* fossil revealed evidence of a large external ear, the earliest-known example in the mammalian fossil record. In fact, the fossil was so well-preserved that scientists were able to identify a fungal hair infection the creature possessed.

With the complex structural features and variation identified in this fossil, we now have conclusive evidence that many fundamental mam-

malian characteristics were already well-established some 125 million years, in the age of dinosaurs," Zhe-Xi Luo, a co-author of the published *Spinoletes* study, said in a statement from the University of Chicago.

*Spinoletes* existed during the Cretaceous period in a wetland area of Spain. In terms of its skeleton, the creature is similar to the modern day armadillo, although closer in size to a juvenile rat. The fossil itself was measured to be 24 centimeters long, and the creature was estimated to weigh between 50 to 70 grams, about the weight of a tennis ball.

Extra joints between *Spinoletes* vertebrae mimic those of the armadillo, suggesting the ani-

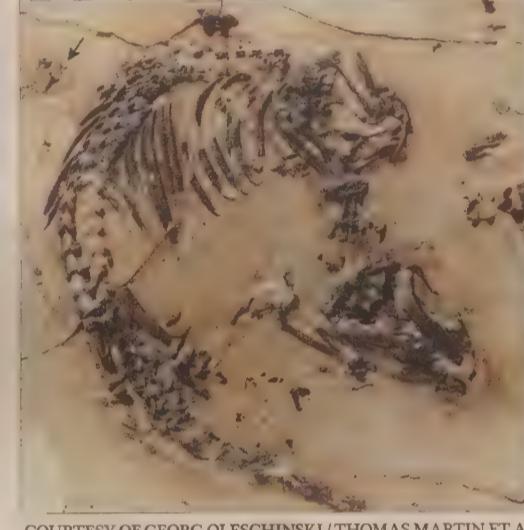
mal's lifestyle might have been similar as well. From the organism's skeletal features, scientists also inferred *Spinoletes* was a ground dweller that fed on insects.

Besides providing suggestions about the organism's build and lifestyle, the fossil marks the first discovery with preserved soft tissue of the chest and abdominal cavities of a Mesozoic animal.

*Spinoletes*'s organs were preserved through a process called phosphatic fossilization, leaving detailed microscopic structures such as the bronchial structure of the lung or iron residue of the liver visible.

Scientists also note a curved muscular boundary dividing the chest

SEE FOSSIL, PAGE B8



COURTESY OF GEORG OLESCHINSKI / THOMAS MARTIN ET AL  
Preserved fur shadows of *Spinoletes* can be seen around the fossil.

## Facebook seeks to provide Internet access in India

By SABRINA CHEN  
For The News-Letter

Facebook has a new mission: to build a network of cheap Wi-Fi across rural India. This network, which will span 2,500 square miles of mountainous terrain, will consist of microwave relay dishes attached to towers. The project would help residents in remote villages log on to the Internet almost as easily as people do in the West. This would likely be considered a luxury in a country where cellular data networks are slow and unreliable.

The service, named Express Wi-Fi, does come at a monetary cost: 10 rupees (or about 15 cents) for one day's access to 100 megabytes of data. Alternatively, \$3 can buy 20 gigabytes of data, which can be used over one month. The prices are about one-third the cost of data plans from Airtel, the most widely stabbed and reliable cellular operator in the mountains.

Express Wi-Fi is only one part of Internet.org, Facebook's bigger initiative to bring Internet to billions of people around the world. Another component is a package of free basic Internet services offered through local cellular carriers in over 25 countries. With both the free service and Express Wi-Fi in use there, India has become a prime testing ground for the company.

With better Internet in rural areas, Facebook will also gain popularity. Both the Facebook and What-

sApp (a messaging service owned by Facebook) mobile apps are among the first to be downloaded by consumers. Facebook already has 130 million users in India and a wider user base will eventually lead to more advertising revenue.

Munish Seth, head of Facebook's connectivity efforts in India, noted that commercial implications are not the primary motivations for the project.

"My mission is to connect people," Seth told *The New York Times*. "We hope they will connect to Facebook, but that's not the primary mission."

Because Facebook's expertise is in software and network technology, the company has partnered with AirJaldi, an Indian rural Internet access provider, in order to manage the actual installation and operation of Express Wi-Fi. Together the companies have tested various pricing models such as offering some complementary services, but have decided that a consistent, low price is the best way to go.

Facebook and AirJaldi have decided to have only one autho-

## New signs of liquid water found on Mars

By ELIZABETH LIU  
Senior Staff Writer

Scientific data have suggested for several years that Mars may have a tiny amount of liquid water in its mostly dry and arid landscape. New evidence from pebbles in ancient riverbeds suggests that three billion years ago Mars had an extensive river system that carried these rocks for miles.

This data was collected by the NASA's Curiosity rover, which landed on the Red Planet in August 2012. The Mars Science Laboratory, an onboard laboratory attached to the rover, is considered one of the most ambitious Mars missions yet.

The goal of NASA's mission is to find out whether the planet ever had an environment able to support life. While Curiosity is not designed to find life, the rover is equipped with advanced instruments that allow it to collect information about its surrounding environment. Its seven-foot-long arm can drill into rocks, scoop up soil and deposit samples into the rover's oven.

While the sample is baking, sensors can analyze the gases from the heated compounds and determine its chemical composition, giving us an idea of what the planet's environment was like in

the past. Its high-resolution camera can capture the landscape as the rover moves, providing images of landscapes that can be compared to Earth's different environments.

In early 2013 Curiosity sent back data that suggested that Mars had habitable living conditions in the past — powder from the first drill and soil samples included carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorous and sulfur, all of which are considered fundamental building blocks that could support life.

In the same year, the rover also discovered the existence of small, round stones near its landing site in the Gale Crater. The researchers noticed that the stones had an uncanny resemblance to those found in riverbeds on Earth, which become rounder and smoother the more they roll and collide with other rocks.

Evidence now suggests that the smooth pebbles found on Mars could have been rolling in the Red Planet's (now non-existent) rivers for quite a while. In a report published in *Nature Communications*, researchers from the University of Pennsylvania and the Budapest University of Technology and Economics describe the first-ever method developed to

SEE WATER, PAGE B8

## Price of drug Daraprim rises by 5,000 percent

By MANISH PARANJPE  
For The News-Letter

A hallmark of HIV-positive individuals is a compromised immune system, which renders their bodies incapable of fighting infections. Daraprim is a pharmaceutical used as a life-saving therapy against *Toxoplasma gondii* infections, commonly found in the HIV community. Last month, however, the CEO of Turing pharmaceuticals, Martin Shkreli, made headlines when his company announced that it would raise the price of Daraprim more than 5,000 percent.

The *Toxoplasma gondii* infection is an example of a rare disease. Shkreli's price hike has opened a debate over the pricing of rare drugs. Rare medical conditions, including lethal infections such as toxoplasmosis and neurological diseases like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), are often neglected by doctors and pharmaceutical companies, according to Jeffrey Aronson, the chairman of the editorial board of the *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*.

In order to incentivize pharmaceutical companies to develop therapies for rare diseases, Congress passed the Orphan

Drug Act (ODA) in 1983.

"The ODA created financial incentives for drug and biologics manufacturers, including tax credits for costs of clinical research, government grant funding, assistance for clinical research, and a seven-year period of exclusive marketing given to the first sponsor of an orphan-designated product who obtains market approval from the Food and Drug Administration [to produce orphan drugs]," the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s website says.

Daraprim was developed more than 50 years ago, and so its patent is long expired. Shkreli's company bought the rights to market Daraprim earlier this year. This has allowed them to increase the price of Daraprim. Even without a patent regulating the production of Daraprim or other generic versions, few third-party alternatives to Daraprim exist to date.

Gerard Anderson, a professor of Health Policy and Management and of International Health at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, has written two books on health care payment policy and authored over 250 journal articles.

"Any drug manufacturer can sell [a generic

SEE DARAPRIM, PAGE B8

shop run by Maken Singh Aswal. Aswal sells the data from his clothing shop and receives a steady stream of interested buyers.

"That's how connectivity spread in terms of satellite TV in India," Chris Daniels, the global head of the Internet.org project, told *The New York Times*. "There was an entrepreneur in every town who had a dish. That's how landline telephony spread. There was an entrepreneur in every town who had a phone and you could buy minutes of talk time on it. So it's a model that has proved to work in the past and we're simply applying that to Internet connectivity."

In Narendra Nagar, a village in the Garhwal region that already has Express Wi-Fi set up, the main street is bathed in high-speed Wi-Fi for customers. The sole vendor of the Wi-Fi is a clothing



MCKAY SAVAGE/CC-BY-2.0  
Facebook aims to provide Wi-Fi access in rural India for the price of about 15 cents per day.

# Apple faces lawsuit on patent technology

By ADARSHA MALLA  
For The News-Letter

Multinational technology giant Apple Inc. has been found by a federal jury to have infringed on a patent on chip technology owned by the University of Wisconsin.

After a week-long trial the federal jury found Apple guilty of using the chip technology without consulting the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF), a nonprofit licensing and patent organization that works with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Because of this finding of patent infringement, Apple may have to pay up to \$862 million in fines.

WARF claims that

Apple used the chip technology in its A7, A8 and A8X processors of iPhones and iPads without WARF's permission. This chip technology, which improves the efficiency of the devices' processors, is found in Apple's iPhone 5s, 6 and 6 Plus, as well as in various iPads.

"This is a case where the hard work of our university researchers and the integrity of patenting and licensing discoveries has prevailed," Carl Gulbrandsen, the managing director of WARF, told the BBC. "The jury recognized the seminal computer processing work that took place on our campus."

— CARL GULBRANDSEN,  
MANAGING  
DIRECTOR OF  
WARF

devices. Samsung, however, is continuing to ask the court to further diminish the damages it must pay Apple.

In yet another Apple-related patent struggle, a federal court in Texas ordered Apple to pay \$852.9 million to Smartflash LLC this February based upon Apple's infringement of Smartflash's music software patents.

In its iTunes software, Apple was found to have violated Smartflash's patents regarding digital rights management and inventions related to data storage and managing access through payment systems.

Apple continues to struggle with patent infringement on both sides of the law.

As its Samsung case continues, Apple will have to balance its legal battles with the production of new products.

As can be seen in the "friend of the court" brief, several of Apple's competitors have publicly expressed disapproval of Apple's policies.

On top of this, WARF is suing Apple for using the same patented chip technology in its second round of release of the iPhone 6, 6S and 6S Plus, as well as in its recently released iPad Pro.

Apple is no rookie when it comes to patent conflicts, as it is still involved in a four-year-long struggle with another tech giant, Samsung. However, to add to this struggle, Facebook, Google, Hewlett-Packard (HP), Dell and eBay submitted a "friend of the court" brief in June, in which these companies

have filed their support of Samsung in its fight against Apple.

In the case against Samsung, Apple claimed that Samsung's smartphones copied the iPhone design, specifically with regards to the rectangular body and round edges.

In 2012, a California jury found Samsung guilty of infringing on Apple's design patents in the Samsung Captivate, Galaxy S line, Fascinate and Epic 4G products. Samsung was initially ordered to pay over a billion dollars in damages to Apple, which was subsequently reduced to \$930 million.

In May 2015, an appeals court ruled that

Samsung does not owe Apple \$382 million, but this still leaves Samsung liable for paying over half a billion dollars to Apple. This figure represents the amount of revenue that Apple lost to Samsung based upon the sales of Galaxy

— CARL GULBRANDSEN,  
MANAGING  
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## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

# Rocks on Mars may have been part of river system



NASA/JPL-CALTECH/MSSS

A new model was used to extrapolate the existence of a river system earlier in Mars's history.

WATER, FROM B7  
quantify and estimate the transport distance of rocks in rivers by only using data collected from the pebbles's shapes.

This model is based on the discovery and concept of the Gömböc, a three-dimensional object with only two static balance points, its shape represents the ultimate goal of erosion and other natural abrasion processes. Therefore, the researchers decided to base their model on pure mathematics to describe the geometry and mass of eroded three-dimensional

in river systems and running water, the number of static balance points in an object is normally diminished.

Since the Gömböc has only two static balance points, its shape represents the ultimate goal of erosion and other natural abrasion processes. Therefore, the researchers had the much harder task of determining the amount of mass lost by each pebble solely based on shape.

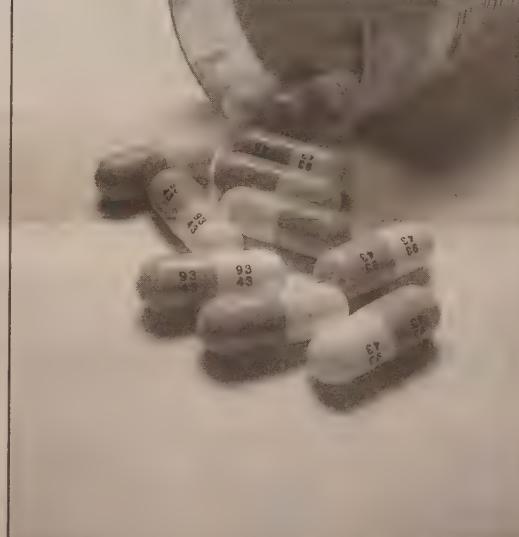
To confirm that their method was viable, the researchers first tested their theory in a lab by rolling rock fragments in a drum and periodically recording their shape and their lost mass. They also

had a chance to test their theory in the field by collecting rock and pebble samples from a mountain river in Puerto Rico. In the end, the researchers found that the actual pattern of the rocks' shape change closely followed that of their predictive model.

In order to determine the distance that a pebble traveled, the researchers traced the contours of the pebbles found in NASA's publicly available images. Their model suggests that the pebbles on Mars had lost approximately 20 percent of their original mass and had traveled about 30 miles from their sources, suggesting that the planet had an extensive river system that could have possibly supported life.

The researchers hope that their model will not just be used for extraterrestrial analyses. The concept could even be used for studies on Earth — scientists could potentially identify the source of a river-transported resource, such as gold, by measuring the object's dimensions.

# Companies fight back against Daraprim price hike



TOM VARCO/CC BY-SA-3.0  
Daraprim is a drug that treats Toxoplasma gondii, a rare infection.

DARAPRIM, FROM B7  
version of Daraprim] if they get FDA approval," Anderson said. "The drug is off patent. Generic drugs have low prices when there are several participants in the market. Daraprim is an example of a generic drug without competition."

date Hillary Clinton demanded that Shkreli lower the cost of Daraprim today back to what it once was.

"If you're price gouging American families and jacking up costs for no good reason, I'm going to hold you accountable," Clinton wrote on Facebook.

In response to criticism that Turing pharmaceuticals and others are engaging in unethical price gouging, Shkreli explained that the money made from the sale of Daraprim will provide

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In response to criticism that Turing pharmaceuticals and others are engaging in unethical price gouging, Shkreli explained that the money made from the sale of Daraprim will provide

a financial incentive for his company to bring more drugs to the market through research and development.

"We spend more than 50 percent of our revenue on R&D," Shkreli wrote on Twitter. "Please get your facts straight before lumping us in with others."

Anderson disagrees with Shkreli's claim that the profits from the sale of Daraprim are needed to cover the company's research and development costs.

"Anytime the prices are increased by 5,000 percent and there is no rationale to justify the price increase than clearly something is wrong with the system," he said.

"There is simply no economic rationale for a price increase for a drug that has been around for over 50 years aside from greed. To argue that the profits will be used for developing a new drug is simply not believable since this is a generic product and the company does not develop new drugs."

In response to Turing's price increase, San Diego-based pharmaceutical company Imprimis announced last week that it would market a modified version of Daraprim for about \$1 per tablet, far

lower than Turing's \$750 per tablet. Imprimis's formulation is a combination consisting of pyrimethamine, the active compound in Daraprim, and leucovorin, a folic acid derivative.

Unlike Daraprim, Imprimis's version is a compounded pharmaceutical, meaning that each patient will receive an individualized, dose-titrated form of the drug.

Shkreli has the patent on Daraprim, but he does not have the patent on bulk substance pyrimethamine," Gigi Davidson, the chair of U.S. Pharmacopeia's Compounding Expert Committee, said in a statement to *Forbes*. "[Selling] compound patient-specific capsules with leucovorin in them does not violate any federal or state laws regarding compounding."

Imprimis CEO Mark Baum hopes that his company's alternative to Daraprim will end or decrease the practice of raising drug prices by competing with Daraprim for market share, according to *Forbes*.

"We don't need price-fixing or price controls," he told the publication. "This is a market-based solution. We can reach a pricing equilibrium using competitive practices."

# New fossil found in Spain was probably a mammal

FOSSIL, FROM B7  
and abdominal cavities that was most likely a diaphragm for respiration.

The organs of *Spinoletes* are now the earliest known record of mammalian organ systems.

Perhaps the most unique feature of the *Spinoletes* fossil, however, was the integumentary structures preserved.

"This Cretaceous fur-ball displays the entire structural diversity of modern mammalian skin and hairs," Luo said.

A train of small spines also runs down the mammal's back, similar in

structure to that of a hedgehog. The spines are known as dermal scutes, plate-like structures made of skin keratin.

These scutes are another trait linking *Spinoletes* to the modern armadillo. Besides the dermal scutes, individual hair follicles and bulbs were preserved in the fossil.

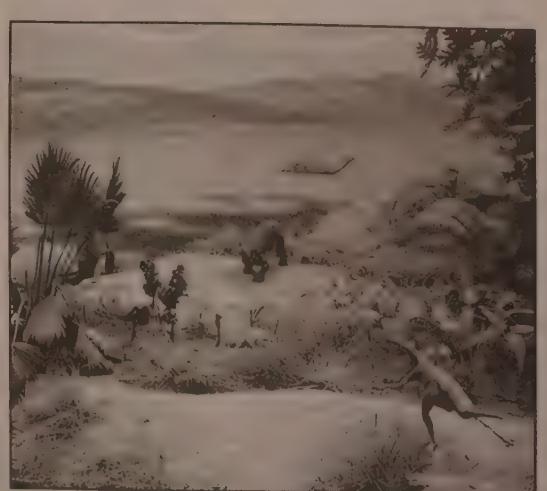
Using electron scanning, scientists were able to identify the composition of the individual hair shafts.

What they discovered was a compound follicle structure in which multiple hairs emerge from

the same pore. It was from abnormally truncated hairs that scientists inferred the fossil possessed a fungal skin infection.

"Hairs and hair-related integumentary structures are fundamental to the livelihood of mammals, and this fossil shows that an ancestral long-extinct lineage had grown these structures in exactly the same way that modern mammals do," Luo said.

*Spinoletes* gives us a spectacular revelation about this central aspect of mammalian biology."



CARL MALAMUD/CC-BY-2.0  
The newly discovered *Spinoletes* fossil lived in the Cretaceous period.

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

# Exploring methods of neurogenic analysis



Duy Phan  
The Brain Wave

**N**eural stem cells in the adult brain hold significant promises for human regenerative medicine. Therefore methods to analyze these stem cells in normal and pathological conditions are crucial for acquiring deeper insight into the biology of adult neurogenesis and into how stem cells can be exploited for the correction of neural function in disease states. In this Brain Wave, I will review two different types of neurogenic analysis: 1) Lineage tracing using S-phase markers, and 2) Retrovirus injection. I will then discuss how the field might improve upon these methods to develop more robust tools to study adult neurogenesis.

The most widely used and oldest method to analyze adult neurogenesis relies on the delivery of BrdU (5-Bromo-2'-Deoxyuridine), a chemical that permanently integrates into the cell during the S-phase of the cell cycle. This means that, even after cell division, BrdU will be retained in the daughter cells. In the context of neural stem cells, BrdU will be incorporated only in dividing stem cells. After cell division the BrdU-incorporated daughter cells will go on to become neurons.

To confirm that the daughter cells have indeed become newborn neurons, it is necessary to show that they express Neuronal Nuclei (NeuN), which is a gene that is expressed only in mature neurons (other neuronal markers, such as HuC/D, can also be used). As a result, counting the number of cells that have both BrdU and NeuN will yield the number of newborn neurons. The number of newborn neurons that the brain produces is correlated with learning and memory, as well as emotional regulation.

While the BrdU method is useful for obtaining the number of newborn neurons, BrdU is limited to the cell's nucleus. The

BrdU method alone consequently does not yield any further information regarding the labeled cell's overall morphology or shape, which are crucial for the cell's function. In order to study the overall morphology of the newborn neuron, such as its axons and dendrites, neuroscientists have turned to retrovirus. Retroviruses are useful in that they not only infect newborn neurons, but also spread throughout the entire cell, allowing for the visualization of axonal and dendritic structures.

Together BrdU and retrovirus are two powerful methods that can be used to analyze the production of newborn neurons and their morphology. However both methods suffer from several important limitations. Whereas BrdU is injected intraperitoneally (into the body cavity), retrovirus is injected directly into the brain. These external deliveries can result in a higher variance in the number of cells infected, making it more difficult to obtain reliable cell counts. The retrovirus itself also has highly stochastic infection properties.

Improving the consistency of the retroviral injection rate will allow the retrovirus to be used not only for determining the morphology of new neurons, but also for performing cell counts, similar to BrdU methods.

Direct injection of retrovirus into the brain also poses another problem, namely inevitable injury at the injection site. Previous studies have shown that mechanical injury can induce cellular proliferation and potentially neurogenesis at the region of injury. In other words, it is possible that some of the neurons infected by the retrovirus might include those that were born in response to the injection-induced injury, making it harder to interpret the results from studies using retrovirus. Improvements to the delivery method of retrovirus would be extremely useful for neurogenic analysis.

One potential modification to the virus could be to alter its structure so that it can pass through the blood brain barrier, allowing for systemic delivery methods (such as by IP injection) that do not induce injury at the region of injection.

# Epigenetic algorithm predicts male sexuality

By RAYYAN JOKHAI  
For The News-Letter

The biology of sexual orientation has been one of the most complex and politically charged mysteries in human genetics. Researchers at the David Geffen School of Medicine of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) have developed an algorithm that examines just nine regions of the human genome to identify associations between homosexuality and markers found on and around DNA.

The study examined the DNA in 47 pairs of identical male twins. Within each pair of twins, one brother was homosexual. The existence of twin pairs in which one is homosexual and the other is not can offer strong evidence that something other than DNA alone influences sexual orientation.

The researchers focused on identifying differences in DNA methylation, a type of modification to DNA that doesn't affect the sequence, which stays the same for the identical twins.

**"This is the first example of a predictive model for sexual orientation based on molecular markers."**

— TUCK NGUN,  
POSTDOCTORAL  
RESEARCHER

because we studied twins, their DNA methylation patterns were highly correlated," Tuck Ngun, the first author on the study, told the American Society of Human Genetics.



SHAWN WELLING/CC-BY-SA-3.0

This algorithm can help explain differences in sexuality between identical twins.

Even after some initial analysis, the researchers were left with over 400,000 data points to sort through.

The innovation in their approach came through the research team's development of a machine learning algorithm called Fuzzy Forest. The algorithm could quickly and independently sort through methylation patterns in the regions of DNA examined in order to identify particular molecular differences in DNA. Using the algorithm and the particular patterns it identified, Ngun and his team were able to predict study participants' sexual orientation with 70 percent accuracy.

"To our knowledge, this is the first example of a predictive model for sexual orientation based on molecular markers,"

Ngun told the American Society of Human Genetics.

Even after some initial analysis, the researchers were left with over 400,000 data points to sort through. The innovation in their approach came through the research team's development of a machine learning algorithm called Fuzzy Forest. The algorithm could quickly and independently sort through methylation patterns in the regions of DNA examined in order to identify particular molecular differences in DNA. Using the algorithm and the particular patterns it identified, Ngun and his team were able to predict study participants' sexual orientation with 70 percent accuracy.

The results were presented earlier this month at the American Society of Human Genetics Annual Meeting in Baltimore and have not been published yet.

# Jupiter's Great Red Spot is changing in size, color

By TONY WU  
Senior Staff Writer

Jupiter, the fifth planet in the solar system, has captivated the interests of scientists across the ages. Categorized as a gas giant, Jupiter is around 90 percent hydrogen and 10 percent helium by volume. Because of their gaseous compositions, gas giants have turbulent atmospheres that can result in large storms.

On Jupiter the most iconic of these storms is the Great Red Spot. Recently, the Hubble Space Telescope has revealed changes in the structure of this large atmospheric storm.

Although the record of the Great Red Spot stretches back for 300 years, there were long periods without any observations. These disappearances can be attributed to the nature of these storms, which can dissipate or fade due to atmospheric conditions.

The current Red Spot is an oval that is spinning counterclockwise with clouds colder than most of Jupiter's atmosphere. Some of the winds within the storm are blowing at speeds of 540 kilometers per hour. In addition the Great Red Spot can change colors. Scientists have observed changes in colors ranging from pink to white.

The fascination with the storm sparked many theories regarding its formation. Currently the most accepted theory involves the influence

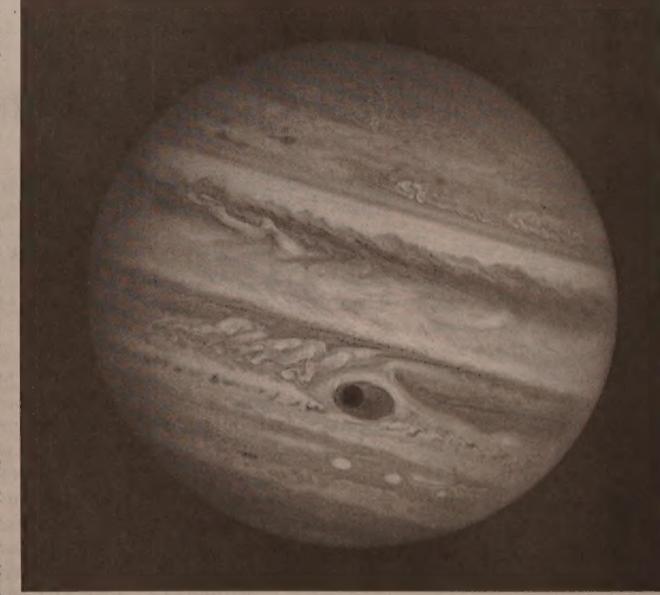
of Coriolis forces. The gases near Jupiter's core are hotter than the gases located above, and as a result the colder gas tends to fall toward the core while the hotter gas rises, forming a convective current.

The rotation of the planet and the falling gas create an effect known as the Coriolis force.

Imagine sitting on a spinning carousel without a roof. While the carousel is moving, a leaf falls from the sky. While an outside observer notices that the leaf falls in a straight downward trajectory, the person on the carousel observes the path as being slanted. This difference produces the Coriolis force.

In a gaseous atmosphere, the Coriolis force can produce swirling motions and, as a result, storms. It has been hypothesized that this effect allowed the Red Spot to exist for hundreds of years.

However new images have been taken with the Hubble cameras which made it easier to identify atmospheric conditions and phenomena. After



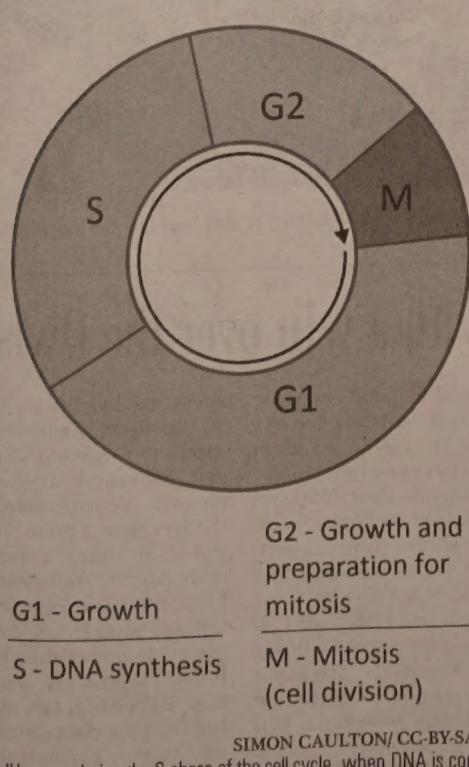
HUBBLE/ESA/CC-BY-2.0

The Hubble Telescope revealed changes in the structure of Jupiter's Great Red Spot.

analyzing these images, scientists confirmed that the Spot continues to shrink. The shrinking was noted before, when the storm reduced its major axis from 80,000 kilometers to 40,000 kilometers. While the spot has been decreasing in size, the new images depict a slower change.

In addition to a decrease in the size of the Great Red Spot, the Hubble Telescope has highlighted a change in the structure of the center of the storm. The color of this part of the storm changed, and it now contains a filament that can be seen twisting through the storm.

The detailed pictures captured by Hubble also included a rare wave



SIMON CAULTON/CC-BY-SA-3.0

BrdU enters during the S-phase of the cell cycle, when DNA is copied.

## SPORTS

## BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Water Polo	Football	Water Polo	Women's Soccer
Oct. 25, 2015	Oct. 24, 2015	Oct. 23, 2015	Oct. 24, 2015
@ MIT	@ Gettysburg	@Princeton	vs. Bryn Mawr
W, 11-9	W, 36-7	L, 15-8	W, 6-0
Men's Soccer	Wrestling	Field Hockey	Women's Soccer
Oct. 24, 2015	Oct. 24, 2015	Oct. 24, 2015	Oct. 27, 2015
@ Muhlenberg	Black & Blue Brawl	@ Bryn Mawr	vs. McDaniel
T, 1-1 (2OT)	Goldfarb Gym	W, 10-0	W, 3-2 (2OT)

## Wrestlers confident as season kicks off

## WRESTLING FROM B12

have an impact on the team starting immediately. Some of them will be starting this year, and I'm sure they will step up to the challenge."

Of course, much of the pressure this season can be assumed to be a result of the departure of Paul Bewak, who graduated last year after claiming third place in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) wrestling national championships.

Team members are nevertheless confident in the abilities of returning members.

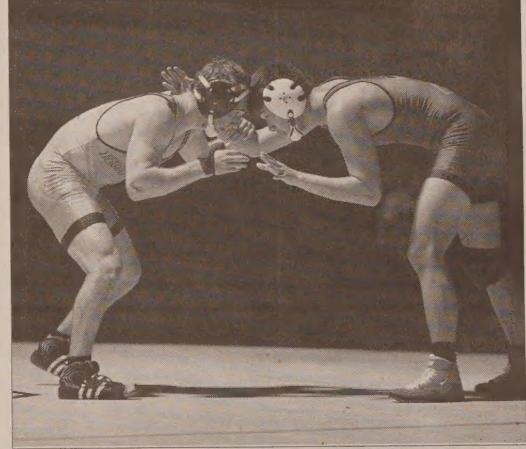
"We have a lot of young guys on the team, and there is definitely some pressure for the upperclassmen to perform extra well... you can always count on captains [senior] Evan Krumheuer and [junior] Jared Forman tearing it up in the practice room," McLaughlin said.

While wrestling often has an individual focus due to the nature of the sport and its matchups, a healthy team dynamic still ought to help the Hopkins team achieve success this season.

"We are a close team, and we celebrate each other's successes and learn from each other's failures," McLaughlin said.

When examining the team it is clear that there is the potential for success on this team. What the team must be most weary of in this season, however, is injuries, which have given the Hopkins team troubles in the past.

"We've always had a huge problem with injuries," McLaughlin said. "That will definitely be the biggest obstacle this season. We have good coaches, talent and strong work ethic, but we will need to work to stay healthy this year."



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM The Black & Blue Brawl kicked off the season for the Blue Jays.

While the wrestlers will focus on maintaining their health, they also look to maintain a high level of enthusiasm from both the athletes and the fans. This enthusiasm was evident at the event on Saturday, Oct. 24 and will hopefully continue throughout the season.

"We had a great turnout for the Black and Blue Brawl," McLaughlin said. "It's always great to have a bunch of fans at our events. I think it's easier to get fired up as an athlete if you have a bunch of people cheering for you."

## Dominant play keeps football in playoffs

## FOOTBALL FROM B12

completion.

The 70-yard drive was capped off when Germano took the snap and raced up the middle for a three yard touchdown keeper.

A touchdown scamper from senior running back senior Brandon Cherry would increase the margin to 13-0, while the defense stifled the prolific Bullets's attack to the tune of three punts and three forced turnovers in Gettysburg's first six possessions.

Hopkins would capitalize on those errors, turning them into nine second-quarter points. Standout senior linebacker Keith Corliss stepped in front of a pass and set up the Jays with great starting field position at the Bullets's own 32-yard line.

A one-yard run by the dynamic Cherry would increase the Hopkins lead to 19-0 late in the first half.

Hopkins would expand their lead in the second half on the backs of a strong rushing attack led by Cherry and junior Stuart Walters. Hopkins totaled 430 yards of total offense, which included 250 on the ground.

Cherry powered his way through the Bullets defense to the tune of 119 yards and two touchdowns while Walters added 83 yards and a touchdown of his own.

Junior quarterback Jonathan Germano completed 21-33 passes for 180 yards and a touchdown while also toting an additional 44 yards and a score on the ground.

Despite the Bullets's average of 477 yards per game, the Hopkins defense held the vaunted Bullets offense to only 321 yards while only surrendering a single touchdown. The Jays were paced by standout junior linebacker Jack Campbell, who finished with a career-high 15 total tackles in the contest. Perhaps more significantly, Campbell also added a half sack and one-and-a-half tackles for loss while recovering two fumbles and forcing another. When asked to comment on the

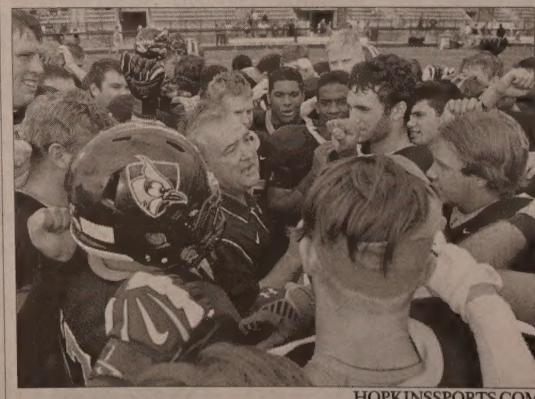
victory, Campbell focused on the importance of forcing turnovers, which had been a vital part of preparation in the days leading up to the game.

"Our coaching staff really emphasizes creating turnovers in practice and to come up with five was really big for us," Campbell said. "I thought we played with great intensity from the start and kept it going the entire game. The main focus going into the game was everyone doing their job against the triple-option offense, which can make you pay for small mistakes. We executed our game plan, and came up with some huge turnovers for a really solid performance."

Another standout defensive performer was the previously mentioned Keith Corliss, whose critical second-quarter interception enabled the Jays to blow the game open late in the second half. His 11 tackles in the contest gave him 207 for his career, a truly impressive mark. When asked to discuss the defense's resounding success against a high-powered foe, Corliss credited the coaches for instilling an excellent game plan and the overall focus of the team.

"Early in the week, our coaching staff looked at the film and put together a game plan that we practiced all week," Corliss said. "I think all year, and especially these last couple weeks, we've been really focused at practice and have done a good job at preparing for the offenses we are going to see. The scout team gives a great look which is really important so we get a game-like feel every day, which makes the game a lot easier to adjust to. We've been able to make in-game adjustments to things we're seeing, so it really just comes down to everyone doing their job and communicating."

The Blue Jays will look to continue their dominance next week, when they host the Ursinus College Bears on Homewood Field at 1 p.m. on Oct. 31.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM The Blue Jays stayed strong as they head into the playoff push.

## Field Hockey's season ends with a win over the Owls

## By ALEJO HUSNI

For The News-Letter

On Saturday, Oct. 24, the Hopkins field hockey team picked up a win, prevailing 10-0 against the Bryn Mawr College Owls. The Blue Jays came into the conference game 6-9 overall with a 3-5 conference record. The Jays snapped a four-game losing streak with a dominant effort against the Owls. Hopkins outshot Bryn Mawr 40-0 and took

23 corners while conceding none. The Jays set the tone early on, with sophomore Morgan Pothast scoring just over four minutes into the game with an assist from junior Shannon Cosgrove. Only 10 minutes later, junior Bridget Hampton doubled the lead. After two early goals, the floodgates opened with the Jays pouring in four goals in 13 minutes to push the lead to six goals at halftime. Cosgrove scored twice early on in the

second half and ended up posting her best game as a Blue Jay with six points on two goals and two assists.

Despite their dominant win, the Blue Jays are eliminated from playoff contention since Conference foes Dickinson College Red Devils and Haverford College Fords are tied with six wins each. The win was a nice turn of events for the Blue Jays who came into the game on a four-game losing streak. The losing



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM Senior Issy Berkey dribbles the ball as the Lady Jays celebrate Senior Day.

In the second half Hopkins continued to dominate Bryn Mawr, keeping possession and converting more opportunities into goals. Senior Alaina Arthur converted the goalkeeper's mistake on a corner kick into a fourth goal for the Blue Jays. In the 67th minute, junior Kate Hobble scored her first career goal off a pass from Van de Loo. To finish off the scoring, sophomore Michelle Santangelo scored her first ca-

streak was tough since the Blue Jays lost two very close games to Dickinson (2OT) and Haverford. Looking forward to next season, the jays have a promising group of young players, with current sophomores Morgan Pothast, Francesca Cali and Greta Helvie starting all 15 games thus far. Fellow sophomore Princess Sutherland has also been an important contributor, tallying 11 points this season.

## SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK  
KEVIN YEE — WATER POLOBy ZACH ROBBINS  
Staff Writer

This weekend the Hopkins water polo team traveled to New London, Conn. where they won their 16th Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) D-III Championship. Senior co-captain Kevin Yee led the way for the Blue Jays, scoring four, three and three points in the tournament, respectively. His five goals and five assists of the weekend along with the rest of his play was enough to earn the driver the tournament MVP.

The water polo co-captain was kind enough to talk with *The News-Letter* about his performance this weekend and the remainder of the season.

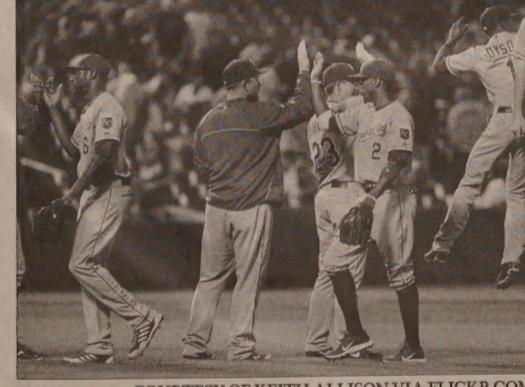
*News-Letter*: What does earning tournament MVP mean for you personally?

Kevin Yee: It's a great honor to receive the tournament MVP, and I'm thankful to the coaches of the tournament who decided to

## Royals are definitive World Series favorites

**BASEBALL FROM B12**  
to take down the Cubbies, so the Mets are certainly hoping for an encore performance against the Royals.

4. David Wright and Terry Collins — The man



COURTESY OF KEITH ALLISON VIA FLICKR.COM  
The Kansas City Royals have what it takes to bring back the Pennant.

## Water Polo again shows championship mentality

**WATER POLO FROM B12**  
utility Kyle Archer and senior attacker Ory Tasman scoring to put them up by two.

With 22 seconds remaining in the second quarter, Cagnotti found the back of the net again for his second score of the night, cutting the Jays' deficit to one goal.

More of the same occurred in the third quarter, as MIT was again first to hit the scoresheet, extending its lead to 6-4 after less than a minute of open play.

However, tournament MVP and the Jays co-captain Kevin Yee pulled one back for the Jays. MIT then scored two of its own, pushing the score to 8-5 in favor of the Engineers.

Cagnotti then scored his third goal of the game, a goal that opened the floodgates for Hop-

kins, who went on a 5-1 goal-scoring run to end the game 11-9. Hopkins scored the final three goals of the third quarter to level the game at 8-8.

Senior co-captain Langdon Froome scored 35 seconds into the fourth quarter to give Hopkins their first lead of the game.

Davidson then doubled Hopkins' advantage with his second goal of the game before MIT senior utility Kale Rogers cut the lead back to one.

However, Hopkins would seal the match with a late goal from Rookie of the Tournament freshman Giorgio Cico, who scored with 1:27 left in the match.

"It was definitely a good win for us," Pinsky said.

"It always feels good to come out of a tournament with some hardware, but we are seriously focusing

on Southerns and Easterns coming up in the next couple of weeks. Those are the biggest tournaments for us and winning against MIT is definitely going to help set us up for a good showing in the post season."

With this win, Hopkins moves to 16-8 all-time in CWPA D-III Title matches, including a 10-6 record when facing MIT for the championship.

The Jays are now 2-0 this season and 28-9 all-time against the Engineers with Froome leading the way

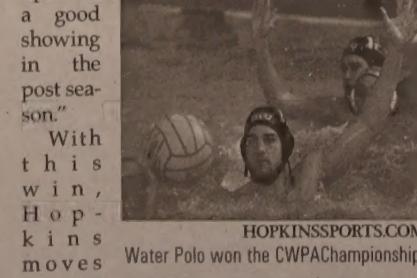
with six individual points (three goals, three assists) and Cagnotti adding in a hat trick of his own.

Hopkins will travel to Lewisburg, Pa. for the 2015

CWPA Southern Championship on November 6-8.

Pinsky is optimistic looking forward to the championship:

"Winning against MIT is a big confidence boost at this point in the season because we will be facing some really good competition at Southerns next weekend, and it will definitely benefit us going in with the right mindset."



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM

"Winning against MIT is a big confidence boost at this point in the season because we will be facing some really good competition at Southerns next weekend, and it will definitely benefit us going in with the right mindset."



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Kevin Yee shows up strong as MVP in the CWPA D-III Tournament.

*N-L*: What type of expectations does the team have when going in to a tournament with a No. 1 seed, and how can these expectations affect your play?

*KY*: As the No. 1 seed it is easy to overlook some of the early round games, but Coach Ted made sure that we took Mon-

day Conn College seriously. Once we got to the championship, we knew we could beat MIT and beating them earlier in the season gave us confidence that we could do it again. It was not easy but I'm proud of the way the team, especially un-

derclassmen, responded when we were losing in the second half.

*N-L*: The championship match was the second time you played MIT, as well as the second time you beat them this season. What is it like playing the same team multiple times?

*KY*: Once you play the same team multiple times in the same year you get to know them well and they get to know you well. It goes even beyond that too. MIT's three best players are all in my class which means we have been guarding each other for four years now. Typically, the team that wins is the one that has learned more from the past matchups. We worked on this a lot in practice last

week and it showed in the game.

*N-L*: You helped the Jays outscore opponents 50-14 in the tournament. What can you contribute to the team's scoring ability to?

*KY*: Over the last two weeks, we've spent a lot of time working on shooting about finishing goals when we have an advantage. Our team speed was able to counter attack consistently in all the tournament games, and we put away our shots when they were available.

The Jays continue their season in Lewisburg, Pa. as they look to take home another title, playing in the CWPA Southern Championship.

## Federer should not retire, may be GOAT

Sammy Bhatia  
Sportpinion

Roger Federer is among those few individuals on Earth whose omnipotence is uncontested. Much like Michael Jordan, much like Tiger Woods, much like Pelé, the Swiss tennis player is the greatest his sport has ever seen. He has won 17 Grand Slam titles, more than any other player in history.

He held the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) World No. 1 title for longer than any other player in history — 302 weeks. Other world records he holds: most Wimbledons won (7), most U.S. Opens won (5), longest grass court match streak of all time (65 consecutive matches from 2003-2008).

Perhaps all you need to know to put his career in scope is that the "List of career achievements by Roger Federer" Wikipedia page is longer than Federer's actual Wikipedia page.

Federer made his first splash in the pro circuit in 2001 when he, a wide-eyed 20-year-old with a vicious temper, defeated four-time defending champion Pete Sampras at Wimbledon and made it into the quarterfinals, having never been past the first round before. By the end of the next year he was ranked No. 6 in the world.

In 2003, he won his first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon and three of the four in 2004, finally claiming the coveted World No. 1 title, which he continued to hold for 237 consecutive weeks. In 2009 he finally won the elusive French Open title, achieving a "career Grand Slam," a feat accomplished by only six other players in tennis history.

I think the Royals's ability to make hard contact, rather than rely on the home run, has the ability to beat the power pitching of the Mets.

However, the Mets look more like a team of destiny at this point. I'll go with the Mets in six games, with MVP honors going to de Grom.

He was officially regarded as the greatest of all time after the 2009 Wimbledon final when he overtook Sampras's record of 14 major titles. His most recent Grand Slam victory came in 2012 at Wimbledon, defeating Andy Murray to win his 17th major and reclaim World No. 1.

Since then, however, his career's future has been continually questioned by fans and critics. The 2013 season saw his first real slump as he was riddled by a chronic back injury and faltering confidence on court, perhaps brought on by his old age.

He dropped to No. 7 in the world, his lowest ranking in 11 years. He won only one title at the Gerry Weber Open in Halle, Germany, a more minor and insignificant title, worth only 250 ATP points (as compared to a Grand Slam, worth 2000 points).

Compared to his unrivaled past, such as in 2006 when he seized 12 titles of the 17 he competed in, losing only five matches all year, Federer's future in the professional circuit came into question. As the defending champion he lost in the second round of Wimbledon to World No. 116 Sergiy Stakhovsky.

However, he bounced back. The 32-year-old

Swiss Maestro made a few key strategic decisions that breathed some life back into his career. First he hired a coach. Federer had been the only player in the world's top 20 without a coach simply because he claimed he didn't need one.

Now, however, with his back against the wall, he hired the great Stefan Edberg, a fellow former World No. 1 and his childhood idol, to jumpstart his career's final years.

Secondly, he switched from a sub-90 square inch racket head to a more manageable, more modern 97-square-inch frame, which allowed him to generate some more much needed power in his strokes and reduce his margin for error.

Nevertheless, things never quite got all the way back to the way they were. Federer reached the 2014 Wimbledon Finals, falling to Novak Djokovic, and again in 2015 both at Wimbledon and at the U.S. Open.

He ended 2014 at World No. 2 with five titles under his belt, more match wins than any other player on tour and a maiden Davis Cup title for Switzerland. To date, he has won five titles this year and is currently sitting at World No. 3.

It is understandable, however, that at 34 years of age he may not play the same tennis he did a decade ago. Most players who entered the tour at his age are either long retired or in the final dregs of their careers; For example, Andy Roddick retired at the 2012 US Open at 30 years old and Lleyton Hewitt, also 34, is in his final year on tour.

Not only has Federer announced his desire to play past the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, he has repeatedly shut down reporters asking him about retirement plans.

And no matter how old he admittedly is for a professional player, why ought he retire when he is still among the handful of dominant players? There has been little to no challenge posed by the tour's young guns, all in their early 20s, at which age Federer himself had already risen to insurmountable heights.

Perhaps this could be a testament to a lack of the same talent in the younger generation, but it is more likely indicative of the sheer talent possessed by the greatest player of all time, alongside the likes of Djokovic, Murray and Nadal (who admittedly is deep in his own slump), aptly named the "Big Four."

Tim Henman, another retired great, said about the man, "I don't think there's anyone that hits the ball like that. Sure, if you take Roddick's serve and Agassi's returns and my volleys and Hewitt's speed and tenacity, then you've probably got a good chance against Federer. That's a lot of people involved in, you know, one player."

A few things are certain: Federer is nowhere near a place where he even needs to consider retirement, and there is a not-so-slight chance that he may snatch one more Grand Slam title. Or more.

# SPORTS

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Hopkins Water Polo team outscored opponents over the weekend at the CWPA D-III Championship by 50-14 over three games.

## CALENDAR

SATURDAY

Volleyball @ Gettysburg, 1 p.m.  
Swimming @ Loyola University (Maryland), 5 p.m.  
Football vs. Ursinus, 1 p.m.

## Soccer plays Muhlenberg to a draw



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Junior forward Victor Osio scored the lone goal for the men's soccer team as it battled in-conference rival Muhlenberg to a 1-1 draw. Osio's second goal on the season and six saves from goalie Bryan See moved the Jays to a 8-4-3 overall record and 3-2-2 Centennial Conference record. The Jays face McDaniel College at home and Washington College on the road this upcoming week.

### INSIDE

## Sammy Bhatia: Pro Profiles

Roger Federer's dominance of the sport of tennis has been unquestionable since the beginning of the century. Sammy Bhatia explains how he can cement his legacy. **Page B11**

## Women's Soccer: Vital Conference Win

The women's soccer team soundly beat in-conference foe Bryn Mawr this past Saturday to improve to 11-3-1 on the year and an impressive 7-1 within the Centennial Conference. **Page B10**

## INSIDE

## Athlete of the Week: Kevin Yee

Senior co-captain of the water polo team Kevin Yee takes home Athlete of the Week honors after leading an impressive Jays squad in the CWPA D-III championships. **Page B11**

## Football darts by Gettysburg Bullets on the road

By ANDREW JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

As has been the case for much of the last three seasons, the dominance of the Hopkins football team has become almost routine. It often seems like an explosive offensive performance coupled with a strangled defensive presence is a foregone conclusion when the Jays take the field each and every week during the regular season, regardless of the opponent

or the atmosphere. This was the case once again this past Saturday, as the Jays trekked north to Gettysburg and vanquished the Bullets by a win, the Jays improved to



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Brandon Cherry led a potent rushing attack on Saturday.

7-0 on the season, including a sparkling 6-0 in the Centennial Conference.

The Bullets fell to a respectable 5-2 on the season, with a 4-2 mark in the conference. The

28 games, meaning that Hopkins has not suffered a regular season defeat in two and a half years.

The Jays raced out to a 22-0 halftime lead on the backs of standout offensive performances from their usual slate of playmakers.

On the opening drive of the game, junior quarterback Jonathan Germano hit receiver Quinn Donaldson for a huge 46-yard

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The 70 yard drive was

## Expect more suspense in annual Fall Classic

**Mitch Weaver**  
*Sportpinion*

by Matt Harvey, Jacob de Grom, Noah (Thor) Syndergaard and Steven Matz, the Amazin's look to this staff to do what Lincecum, Cain and Bumgarner did for the Giants in 2010.

I'm intrigued to see how the young arms do against the most balanced lineup in baseball since Kansas City makes a ton of contact and plays lots of small-ball.

**2. Johnny Cueto** — The Royals realized at mid-season that in order to compete in October they were in need of an ace.

Thus they picked up Cueto from the Cincinnati Reds. However, Cueto has been underwhelming at best.

With an ERA hovering around five since the trade, the Royals are desperate for Cueto to provide some kind of return.

His brilliance in the ALDS did not translate in the ALCS, so the Royals are hoping he can shimmy his way to a win.

**3. Daniel Murphy** — A player who has been described as the most ordinary player in the M.L.B. has somehow managed to morph himself into Babe Ruth during these playoffs.

Murphy is currently riding a M.L.B. record of six straight postseason games with a home run into the Fall Classic. The NLCS MVP, Murphy hit .529 with four home runs

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## Wrestling season starts with Black & Blue Brawl

By LUCAS BEDNAREK  
For The News-Letter

On Saturday, Hopkins wrestlers congregated in the athletic center for the Jays' annual Black and Blue Brawl. Blue Jay wrestlers participated in a series of matchups between squad members, as the team does each year in this preseason event.

At this point in the season, meets do not quite hold as much gravity, but the team is always thinking of the season ahead.

"Right now, we are just trying to get back into the wrestling mode," junior Alex McLaughlin said. "Every match is important, but as we get deeper into the season they become more and more important."

At this point in the preparation for the season, the team's early efforts are paying off, and the team is happy with

where it currently stands, according to McLaughlin.

"As a whole, we have worked out harder than we ever have this pre-season," McLaughlin said. "I definitely think we are farther ahead this year than we have been in years past."

The team is aware that the season ahead brings challenges, but the players still expect success from themselves and their teammates McLaughlin said.

"I think a good goal for us this year is to have a couple All-Americans," McLaughlin said. "I'd also like to see us be more successful in conference competition this year. I think we can do both of these things, but it will take a lot of hard work and dedication. As a whole we looked pretty sharp, but we definitely have room to improve."

According to

McLaughlin, there are several factors that will contribute to a successful season for wrestling team. One of these is the continued success of the upperclassmen on the team, as well as impactful

efforts by the new freshman class.

"We have a huge freshman class this year," McLaughlin said. "They are all very talented wrestlers and will definitely

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11-9 and captured several individual honors as well; senior co-captain Kevin Yee was named the Tournament MVP, freshman utility Giorgio Cico was named Rookie of the Tournament and Head Coach Ted Bresnahan was named Most Outstanding Coach.

Junior driver Bret Pinsker, along with his teammates, was ecstatic to win the championship, especially against MIT.

"It's a good win for us. We always play a close game with them," Pinsker said.

"They're some of the only other D-III competition we have in the East, so beating them always feels good."

It was MIT who took the early lead in the title match, as it lead Hopkins 3-1 with 4:49 left to play in the first quarter.

However, Hopkins surged back with back-to-back goals from junior guard Giovanni Cagnotti, and senior 2-M defender Garrett Davidson to tie the game up at the end of the third quarter.

After the first quarter, the game looked like a very back and forth ordeal. In the second, the MIT Engineers struck first again, with sophomore

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COURTESY OF ARTURO PARDAVILA III VIA FLICKR

Jacob deGrom leads a young, flame throwing Mets rotation.